

'Go To It' with "TripleX"-and Get There!
Regd.

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. LXXXIX. No. 2297.
Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper and for
Canadian Magazine Post.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1941.

Published Weekly, Price ONE SHILLING.
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Advertisements for this column are accepted at the rate of 2d. per word prepaid (if Box Number used add extra), and must reach this office not later than Friday morning for the coming week's issue.

All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

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COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN COUNTRY LIFE
AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

Vol. LXXXIX. No. 2297.

Printed in England.
Entered as Second-Class Matter at the
New York U.S.A. Post Office.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1941.

Published Weekly. Price ONE SHILLING.
Subscription Price per annum. Post Free.
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£1,000 FOR LEASE AT £18 P.A.

S. DEVON

4 miles Torquay: beautiful position, 300ft. above sea level,
on Southern slope, 1 mile sea, with boathouse on beach.

CHARMING RESIDENCE IN ITALIAN STYLE

8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 5 good reception.

Central heating. Main electricity and water.

GARAGE FOR 4. STABLING. FLAT. COTTAGE.

3½ ACRES LOVELY GROUNDS

Part FREEHOLD

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (4809.)

£5,000 FREEHOLD

65 ACRES

1-MILE TROUT FISHING IN RIVER TEIGN.

LOVELY PART OF DEVON

OLD STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Billiard room, 4 reception, 2 bath, 7 bedrooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.

Farmhouse and Buildings. Garage. Stabling.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS.

Pasture and Arable.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (17,052.)

COTSWOLDS

£3,250

6 miles from Kemble.

RESTORED SMALL CHARACTER FARMHOUSE

3 reception. 2 bathrooms. 5 bedrooms.

Central heating. H. and C. in bedrooms. Main electric light.

GARAGE.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS, wood and grassland.

23 ACRES, with Stream.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (18,932.)

TO LET FURNISHED

In the lovely country between

PENSHURST & EAST GRINSTEAD

Overlooking the Ashdown Forest.

A DELIGHTFUL ELIZABETHAN COTTAGE

Full of old oak, but modernised; electric light, telephone, gas.

Lounge with deep inge, 2 other reception.

cloakroom, bathroom, 4 bedrooms.

Cellar. Double Garage.

Pretty Gardens. Fruit and vegetables.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

£3,250

3 ACRES

BASINGSTOKE 2 MILES

In unspoilt Village, near bus service.

ATTRACTIVE SMALL RESIDENCE

3 reception. 2 bathrooms. 7 bedrooms.

Main electricity. Garage. Stables for 4.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS.

Kitchen garden and pasture.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,608.)

187 OR 400 ACRES

OXON-GLOS. BORDERS

700ft. up. Mile Town and Station.

COTSWOLD FARMHOUSE

7 bedrooms. Bathroom. 2 reception.

Main water and electricity. "Aga" cooker.

GARAGES. FARMBUILDINGS. COTTAGES.

Well-farmed land. Good pasture.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,375.)

Telephone No.
Regent 4304.

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28B, ALBEMARLE STREET,
PICCADILLY, W.1.**SOMERSET-WILTS BORDERS**

In a picturesque rural setting, enjoying absolute seclusion.
CHARMING OLD MANOR HOUSE
of great historical interest and possessing many delightful old-world features.



with 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

Main water, Electric light.

OLD TUDOR COTTAGE
The pleasure gardens are most attractively disposed and, together with enclosures of grassland, extend to

ABOUT 4½ ACRES
Well-stocked Trout Stream.

For Sale by OSBORN and MERCER. (M.2194.)

GUILDFORD AND HORSHAM

BEAUTIFUL SPECIMEN OF ELIZABETHAN ARCHITECTURE CAREFULLY RESTORED AND MODERNISED
In rural country with delightful views.

3 reception, 9 bedrooms, (all with lavatory basins, b. and c.), 2 bathrooms, A wealth of old oak, open fireplaces, etc.

Main services, Central heating.

Fine old Tithe Barn, converted into a cottage.
Beautiful gardens, some woodland, pasture, etc.; about

20 ACRES

For Sale by OSBORN and MERCER. (17,006.)

**IN THE FAR WEST COUNTRY**

Secluded and amidst beautiful scenery.
AN ATTRACTIVE HEAVILY WOODED ESTATE OF ABOUT 1,200 ACRES

Excellent return from Agricultural portion.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

Details, Plan, etc., from OSBORN & MERCER.

NEAR DONCASTER**AN ATTRACTIVE FARM INVESTMENT**

About 112 Acres in and about the village.

Good Farmhouse. Ample Buildings.

Let on yearly tenancy.

For Sale by OSBORN & MERCER.

2 HOURS FROM LONDON.**COMPACT AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF ABOUT 2,000 ACRES**

Numerous farms and holdings well let and showing excellent return.

Privately For Sale by OSBORN & MERCER.

BEDS AND BUCKS BORDERS

Within 10 miles of Leighton Buzzard, Bedford and Luton.
In fine unspoilt rural surroundings.

**A DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE OF CHARACTER**

3-4 reception, 9 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and drainage. Main water available. Garage. Stabling. Attractive well-timbered grounds, orchard, paddock, etc.

ABOUT 6½ ACRES

For Sale at Moderate Price.
Agents, OSBORN & MERCER. (M.2191.)

DORSET. IN PARKLANDS, ADJOINING DOWNS

South aspect. Panoramic Views. Long carriage drive.

3 reception, 6 bedrooms (with lav. basins), 2 bathrooms.

GEORGIAN HOUSE

Electric Light, Central Heating.

STABLING, COTTAGE, SQUASH COURT.

II ACRES

Immediate Sale desired.
Agents, OSBORN and MERCER. (17,085.)



3, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Telephones:
Grosvenor 1032-33.

WILTS—GLOS. BORDERS

Main line station and village within half a mile.

ONE AND HALF MILES OF FISHING.

Exclusive rights on one bank.

LOW-STORIED GABLED HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM

3 reception, well-fitted bathroom, 6 bedrooms.

In excellent repair and ready to occupy at once.

Garages (2). Bungalow-Cottage (5 rooms). Outbuildings.

Electric light. Plentiful water. Central heating.

GARDENS A MOST ATTRACTIVE FEATURE

Fully matured. Easy to maintain.

2 PADDOCKS; in all about 4 ACRES.

Beautiful open position with Southern exposure.

DEFINITE BARGAIN. £2,950 FREEHOLD

Fittings and furniture can be purchased if required.

Confidentially recommended by Sole Agents, Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1. (12,678.)

FURNISHED COUNTRY HOUSES**AVAILABLE AT ONCE FOR WAR DURATION**

		BEDS.	BATHS.	GNS.	WEEKLY
ONE HOUR ...	Genuine Tudor ...	12	4	20	(12,674)
KENT ...	Elizabethan ...	12	5	20	(10,194)
BUCKS ...	Jacobean ...	7	2	13	(10,932)
WEST SUSSEX ...	Period House ...	8	3	12	(11,683)
SURREY ...	Modern Luxury...	7	3	12	(12,673)
HERTS ...	Georgian ...	8	3	12	(12,679)
SURREY ...	Elizabethan ...	10	3	12	(12,675)
30 MILES ...	Tudor Replica ...	7	3	10	(12,666)
HERTS ...	Genuine Tudor ...	5	4	10	(12,620)
SURREY ...	Tudor—Copy ...	7	1	8	(12,630)

All these fine Houses are recommended with every confidence by
Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, W.1.

FARMS FOR SALE, OCCUPATION OR INVESTMENT

DERBY—STAFFS BORDERS

Famous Dove Dale Country.

VALUABLE ACCREDITED DAIRY FARM

ABOUT 447 ACRES

EXCEPTIONAL HOUSE AND AMPLE BUILDINGS,
ACCREDITED COWHOUSE FOR 56.

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION
MARCH, 1941

BUCKS.—BEDS. BORDERS**VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL ESTATE**

comprising A COMPACT BLOCK OF FARMS of about

850 ACRES

NOMINAL OUTGOINGS.

TRING—AYLESBURY DISTRICT**FIRST-CLASS FEEDING AND DAIRY FARM**

extending to about **300 ACRES**

Partly bounded by running stream.

GOOD HOUSE AND EXCELLENT BUILDINGS.

COWHOUSE FOR 30.

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £8,500

MIDLANDS**FOUR FIRST-CLASS FARMS**

extending to about

700 ACRES

with attractive

HOMESTEADS AND COMPLETE SETS OF

BUILDINGS

(all in excellent state of repair),

producing a

GROSS INCOME OF OVER £1,100 p.a.

NOMINAL OUTGOINGS.

Full particulars of the above properties can be obtained from Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1.

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS
 (ESTABLISHED 1778)
 25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.I.

Telephone No.: Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines.)

£4,750 WITH 10 ACRES
Up to 130 acres available.



In the Beautiful Leith Hill District
 Close to excellent bus service; 350ft. up with magnificent views.
 8 bed (b. and c. basins), 2 bath and 2 reception rooms, lounge (35ft. by 18ft.), etc. Co.'s services, central heating, garage, stabling.
GARAGE, BUNGALOW, PADDOCKS AND COPSE.
 More land, farmery and large cottage if required.
 Owner's Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (D.1101.)

DEVON
 TO BE LET FURNISHED FOR YEAR OR DURATION.



CHARMING OLD HOUSE
 Furnished antiques. Modern conveniences. 10 bed, 3 bath, 3 reception rooms, Main electric light, Central heating throughout, Garage, Stabling.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS,
 hard tennis court; bathing pool; farm (let) in all
240 ACRES
 affording MIXED SHOOTING and TROUT-FISHING.
 GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (c7133)

HALF A MILE TROUT FISHING
in well-known West Country River.



FOR SALE.
A Modernised Stone-built FARMHOUSE
 having 10 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 reception rooms, Central heating, Main electric light, STABLING, GARAGE, FARMERY with HOMESTEAD
74 ACRES
 Unexpectedly in the market and strongly recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (c7138.)

WANTED**TWO OR THREE 20 TO 30 BEDROOMED HOUSES, in**BERKS, BUCKS or HERTS
 preferred, wanted AT ONCE by WEALTHY CORPORATION. WILL BUY or RENT.

Replies to "L.C.S.", 1535, c/o GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I.

*An Applicant writes that he wishes to purchase a property similar to—***ASHE WARREN, OVERTON**, recently sold by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, and which comprised a Gentleman's Residence and a couple of farms extending to 700 ACRES, but will buy a larger area if required.

Replies to "H.P.D.", 1539, c/o GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I.

£5,000 (up to, according to area and condition) will be paid for a RESIDENCE with 7-8 bedrooms, etc., and 3 ACRES upwards, in neighbourhood of NEWBURY for choice, but GLOS, WILTS, OXON and BERKS all considered.

Replies to "J.C.C.", B.823, c/o GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I.

Also at
 RUGBY,
 BIRMINGHAM,**JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK**
 44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1. (Regent 0911.)OXFORD,
 CHIPPING
 NORTON.**40 MILES NORTH OF LONDON****THIS ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**, with south aspect. Hall, lounge, 2 reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom.

Company's water, Electric light.

Central heating.

GARAGE AND COTTAGE.

WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS AND PADDOCK: about 6 ACRES.

Price £4,500

Apply JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 16,740.)

WALES**WANTED TO PURCHASE IN WALES**

or in one of the adjacent English Counties.

A FIRST-CLASS RESIDENTIAL COUNTRY ESTATEcomprising a
 GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE OF ABOUT
 15-20 BEDROOMS,
 standing in a park having a stream or lake.**IMMEDIATE VACANT POSSESSION OF RESIDENCE IS NOT DESIRED.****LAND SURROUNDING WOULD BE PURCHASED UP TO 1,000 ACRES**

(or more if necessary to ensure absolute privacy).

Vendors, their Solicitors, or Agents, are requested to write to JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Surveyors, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1, marking envelope "Private," when it will be opened and dealt with by one of the Principals of the firm.

EXECUTORS' SALE.**COTSWOLD HILLS****QUEEN ANNE PERIOD COUNTRY RESIDENCE**, commanding fine views, 4-mile village, ½-mile station; lovely district; away from main roads; everything in splendid order; hall and 3 sitting rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms; main electricity and power, Company's water, central heating, independent hot water; 2 cottages, stable and garage; charming garden, orchard and paddock. Total area about 8½ ACRES. £3,750.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 19,620.)

Telephone:
 Grosvenor 2252
 (6 lines)**CONSTABLE & MAUDE**
 2, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.I.**COTSWOLDS ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN HOUSE**

on the outskirts of a village, 7 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiard room, usual offices, Central heating throughout, Main electric light, Water and drainage.

LODGE, GARAGE, 2 COTTAGES.
ABOUT 7 ACRES
 FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.I.

WEST SUSSEX ATTRACTIVE OLD HOUSE

the subject of considerable expenditure, 9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, usual offices, GARAGE (for 3 cars). 2 COTTAGES. Main water and electricity. Modern drainage.

Central heating. Well-stocked kitchen gardens; 2 orchards; 2 paddocks.

ABOUT 10 ACRES
 FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.I.

EXCELLENT FARM INVESTMENT IN MIDLANDS 8-ROOMED FARMHOUSE

Good buildings. 2 capital Cottages.

ABOUT 180 ACRES (mainly pasture).**PRICE £5,750**

THE VENDOR WILL RENT BACK THE FARM AT £280 P.A.

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.I.

WARWICKSHIRE ONE OF THE FINEST MODERN HOUSES IN THE MIDLANDS

PERFECTLY APPOINTED AND FITTED. Hall and 3 reception rooms, 13 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms, compact offices, Main electric light and power. Modern sanitation. Central heating throughout. Excellent water supply.

Lodge, Garages, Stabling, Beautiful grounds. Spring-fed swimming pool. Kitchen and fruit gardens.

ABOUT 18 ACRES**FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.I.

DEVONSHIRE HALF A MILE OF TROUT FISHING. STONE-BUILT HOUSE

Containing 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Main electric light. Central heating.

Garage. Stabling. Good gardens.

FARMHOUSE containing 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms.

IN ALL ABOUT 74 ACRES

OR WOULD BE SOLD WITHOUT THE FARM.

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.I.

SUITABLE FOR OFFICE OR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES SUSSEX

WITHIN DAILY REACH.

Attractive Modern TUDOR HOUSE

14 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms,

4 reception rooms.

Central heating. Main services.

Attractive Gardens.

ABOUT 5 ACRES

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.I.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

CURTIS & HENSON

Telephones:
Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines.)
ESTABLISHED 1875.SOUTH-WEST SURREY
PERFECTLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE IN THE GEORGIAN STYLE

LONDON ABOUT 45 MILES.

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

affording every labour-saving device that modern ingenuity can provide.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS. 10 BEDROOMS.
8 BATHROOMS.

GARAGE. LODGE.

Central heating; main water and electricity,
modern drainage.

SECLUDED GROUNDS SCREENED BY FINE TREES, WIDE LAWNS, HERBACEOUS BORDERS, FORMAL GARDENS.

IN ALL ABOUT 2½ ACRES.

TO BE LET FURNISHED OR FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Further particulars of CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,008.)



SOMERSETSHIRE (Yeovil 7 miles). — STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE with old mullion windows, standing in finely timbered grounds, 3-4 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, model offices; electric light, main water; garage and stabling; gardener's cottage; charming gardens and grounds, interspersed with specimen timber trees, walled kitchen garden and pastureland; in all about 9½ ACRES. Hunting and golf. For SALE Freehold at a Reduced Price.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,325.)

DEVONSHIRE (7 miles from Exeter). — A FINE MODERN HOUSE, 450ft up, amidst sloping woodlands, 4 reception rooms, servants' sitting room, 13 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Electric light. Garage and stabling. 2 Cottages. Charming Grounds, with tennis court and swimming pool. Rough shooting over 600 acres.

TO LET FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED
on reasonable terms.

Apply CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (15,431A.)

SOMERSETSHIRE (near to Exmoor and the Quantock Hills). — AN INTERESTING OLD HOUSE, of Tudor origin, in grounds sheltered by stately trees, 4 reception rooms, billiards room, 12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, extensive domestic offices. Telephone. Main electricity available. Swimming pool. Stabling for 7. Garage for 3 cars. Old-world grounds with 2 tennis courts, kitchen garden, 3 paddocks; in all about 35 Acres. For Sale Freehold or to Let, Furnished.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (14,052.)

40 MILES FROM LONDON

A CHARMING RESIDENCE

built in the farmhouse style; up to date and in first-class order throughout.

3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main water, gas and electricity.

Garage (for 2 cars), 2 excellent cottages, delightful playroom.

Lawn tennis court. Prolific kitchen garden.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS of very great charm; fine woodland merging into heathland and several paddocks.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 25 TO 71 ACRES.

Golf and Riding over miles of commonland.

Confidently recommended by the Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON. (16,432.)

A SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE
IN BEAUTIFUL PARK-LIKE GROUNDS.
Approached by a long carriage drive.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, EXCELLENT OFFICES,

4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS.

2 SERVANTS' BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.
(H, and c. water supplies to bedrooms and cloakroom.)

Ample water supply. Central heating.

Electric light. Telephone.

2 LARGE GARAGES, 4 GOOD LOOSE BOXES.
SECLUDED GROUNDS, including a squash court; in all about 20 ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT A REASONABLE PRICE

Recommended: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (15,321.)

DORSETSHIRE

WITHIN 1 MILE OF VILLAGE AND 2 MILES OF THE STATION.



LAND, ESTATES AND OTHER PROPERTIES WANTED

£20,000 to £40,000

IS WAITING TO BE INVESTED IN AN

ESTATE IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND

OF

600 to 1,500 ACRES

If Agents, Owners, or their Solicitors will please send particulars, plans and price required to Messrs. GRIBBLE, BOOTH & SHEPHERD, Estate Agents, of Basingstoke (who do not require any commission)

AN IMMEDIATE INSPECTION WILL BE MADE.

WANTED TO BUY, OLD-WORLD COTTAGE, high ground preferred, not in a town, 2 living rooms, 3 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, W.C. Electric light, main water, drainage, if possible, light soil; within 1½ hours of London, main line.—BURROUGHS, Heath Lodge, Shurlock Row, Berks.

WORCESTERSHIRE

OWNER of dignified GABLE RESIDENCE in own Grounds will let furnished for duration. 4 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 garages, beautifully furnished, antiques. Gardens overlook valley. Central heating; electric light; good water. 20 Guineas weekly inclusive. Owner retain three gardeners and supply all produce. Cottages available for staff if required.—Ref. A.238/24. LEONARD CARVER & CO., 31, Waterloo Street, Birmingham 2.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING COUNTIES
HOLLOWAY, PRICE & CO.,
(ESTABLISHED 1809.) **MARKET HARBOUROUGH.**
LAND AGENTS, AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS

SALISBURY & DISTRICT.—ESTATE AGENTS.
MYDDELTON & MAJOR, F.A.I., SALISBURY.

DEVON AND S. & W. COUNTIES
THE ONLY COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED REGISTER.

Price 2s.

SELECTED LISTS FREE.

RIPPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I.,
(Est. 1884.) **EXETER.**

HAMPSHIRE & SOUTHERN COUNTIES
17, Above Bar, Southampton. **WALLER & KING, F.A.I.**
Business Established over 100 years.

BY ORDER OF THE OWNER.

8, TITE STREET, CHELSEA, S.W.3

The Contents of the Residence, comprising ANTIQUE and MODERN FURNITURE, Bedroom Appointments, Divans and other Bedsteads, excellent Blankets and Coverlets, OLD ENGLISH TALLBOY, Card, Tripod and other Tables, GEORGIAN MAHOGANY SET OF DINING-ROOM TABLES, MODERN BOUDOIR GRAND PIANOFORTE by A. Fahr, Settees, Easy, Elbow and Standard Chairs, Stools, Screens and Mirrors, Electric Table Lamps and Radiators, Carpets and Persian Rugs, Pictures, Plated Articles, Clocks and Ornamental items, HOOVER ELECTRIC CLEANER, ELECTRO-LUX FLOOR POLISHER, Sets of Curtains, AVERY'S PERSONAL WEIGHING MACHINE, H.M.V. PORTABLE GRAMOPHONE and RECORDS, Table China and Glass and other domestic effects, a Lead Statue and other small garden ornaments, which Messrs.

LOFTS & WARNER

will SELL BY AUCTION on the premises, as above, on MONDAY, JANUARY 27th, 1941, at 12.30 p.m. precisely. On view Saturday previous, 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, at their offices, 41, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (Gros. 3056).

EXORS. SALE.

VACANT POSSESSION.

ONE-THIRD OF COST WILL BE
ACCEPTED FOR QUICK SALE.

HASLEMERE

Station 3 miles. Lovely rural position.

A FIRST-CLASS PROPERTY

READY TO WALK INTO.

3 fine reception, 5 principal bedrooms, 3 staff bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, complete offices with staff sitting room, Co.'s services; central heating; electric power and cloaks, etc. Fitted regardless of cost. 5 Cottages, Garages, Stabling. Lovely Grounds. 26 ACRES and Meadows. Expensive A.R.P. Bomb and Gas Proof Shelter. Inspection invited. The above offers a remarkable opportunity. Apply Sole Agents, CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere, Surrey; and at Hindhead.

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET

TO LET FURNISHED.—Charming old-world COTTAGE; 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms. Modern conveniences. In safe area, Gladbury-on-Wye.—Apply, D. LEWIS JONES, Gladbury, Pwllheli, Caernarvonshire.

FOR SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORD, WORCS., etc.,
and MID WALES, apply leading Agents: (Phons:
CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, SHREWSBURY. 2061.)

HANTS

Few miles Basingstoke.

FIRST-RATE MODERN RESIDENCE

15 bed, 5 baths, large hall and reception rooms, excellent domestic offices.

Central heating. Modern conveniences.

Stabling. Garages. Cottages.

DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS with Hard Tennis Court and Swimming Pool. Home Farm.

IN ALL 236 ACRES

Vacant possession of Residence, remainder of Estate let.

For Sale as a whole, or Residence can be had with about 30 Acres.

Highly recommended by Sole Agent, S. GORRINGE, 14, Clifford Street, London, W.1. Regent 6144.

LAND, ESTATES AND OTHER PROPERTIES WANTED

A MILLION CAPITAL TO INVEST BY WELL-KNOWN TRUST!

WANTED.—COUNTRY ESTATES and FARMS, preferably well timbered. Please forward full particulars (which will be confidentially treated) to C. LESLIE GILLOW, F.A.I., 28, St. Peter's Street, Albans, Herts.

WANTED.—UNFURNISHED (or partially so) HOUSE with 5 or more bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms, not more than 6 Acres, much less if possible, walled garden appreciated, at about £135, with option of purchase. Berks, Bucks, etc. preferred.—Captain IRVING, C.B., 16, Cleveleys, Cleveleys, Lancashire.

WANTED—RENT HOUSE, COTTAGE, with extensive kitchen gardens, or some land for commercial wing; preferably with greenhouses.—L. E. DOSOGNE, Cheam Court, Cheam Village, Surrey.

OMERSET.—Manufacturer's Test Pilot urgently requires UNFURNISHED HOUSE or COTTAGE situated 3 to 12 miles Weston-super-Mare; Wrington or other areas preferred.—"A.673," c/o COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.2.

14, MOUNT STREET,
GROSSENIOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

Telephone:
Grosvenor 1441 (three lines.)

SUSSEX BORDER



XVITH CENTURY HOUSE, beautifully appointed. 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception. Lovely Gardens. 3 Cottages.

FOR SALE WITH 40 ACRES

Agents: WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

URGENTLY REQUIRED

MESSRS. WILSON & CO., will be glad to receive details and photos of properties up to £20,000 offering approximately the following:

A really well-appointed HOUSE with spacious and light rooms and all modern equipment.

12-15 bedrooms, 4-6 bathrooms, etc.
High up with a good view; not on or near a road.

150-250 ACRES with small park.

West Sussex, Hants, Berks, Cornwall, Dorset.

Messrs. WILSON & CO. are retained by a Client and

NO COMMISSION IS REQUIRED
from the vendor. Please communicate to
14, Mount Street, W.1.

ON THE COTSWOLDS



HISTORIC TUDOR MANOR, in perfect order; fine paneling, etc.; 13 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 5 reception rooms. Home farm, Dower House, 5 Cottages. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of Trout Fishing.

FOR SALE WITH 126 ACRES

Agents: WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

YORKSHIRE. HIGH UP WITH SUPERB VIEWS. EASY REACH OF YORK



Beautifully Appointed STONE-BUILT HOUSE

in splendid order. Up-to-date in every respect.

Electricity. Radiators throughout.

Wash basins (h. & c.) to bedrooms.

4 charming reception rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 baths.

Stabling. Garages. Cottage.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS.

Woodland and Paddocks.

16 ACRES. FOR SALE.

MIGHT BE LET FURNISHED.

Sole Agents: WILSON & CO.,

14, Mount Street, London, W.1.

Personally inspected and recommended.



F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone: REGENT 2481.

AN ATTRACTIVE SUSSEX FARMHOUSE STYLE RESIDENCE

BETWEEN HAYWARDS HEATH AND LEWES

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JUST IN THE MARKET.

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Central heating throughout.

All fittings are of the best quality.

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Smaller garage.

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13 ACRES

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STABLING. GARAGE.

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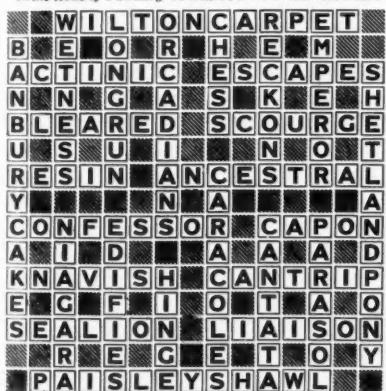
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SOLUTION to No. 573

The winner of this crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of January 18 will be announced next week.

**ACROSS.**

- 1 and 6. Daylight's extent (four words, 4, 4, 2, 4)
- 9. Not one who gives instruction by correspondence courses (10)
- 10. A supporter of Royalty (4)
- 11. Photographic details showing how tennis is played? (6)
- 12. Is this the padding that goes with nonsense? (5)
- 13. The sort of house that has an insubstantial tenant (7)
- 14. Spirits in the French spirit twice over? (7)
- This should be a much-painted family of authors (7)
- "To-morrow to fresh woods and —'s new."—Milton (7)
- A result of not having enough to do (5)
- Not Elgar in B, but B in Elgar so altered as to alter the sense (6)
- Season that reverses the editor's function (4)
- A more youthful growth than old man's beard? (two words, 6, 4)

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 574

A prize of books to the value of two guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 574, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the *first post on the morning of Friday, January 31, 1941.*

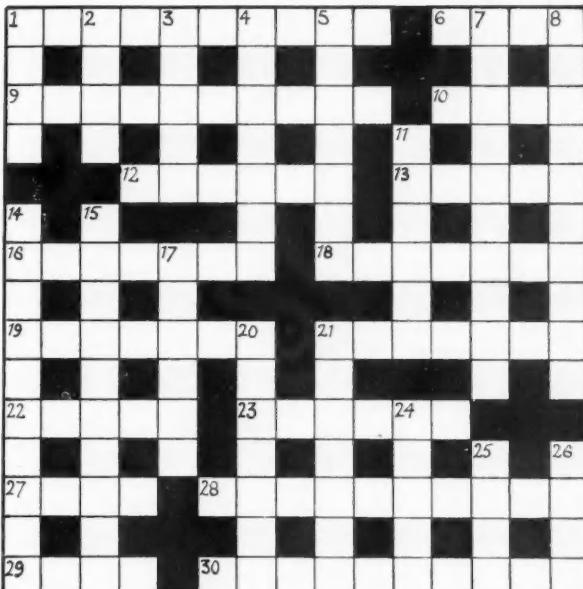
"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 574

The winner of
Crossword No. 572 is
J. C. Eley, Esq.,
Oakland, Fenstanton,
Huntingdon.

29 and 30. An old English game that might provide Lord Nuffield with an idea for a capacious car (three words, 4, 4, 6).

DOWN.

- 1. Dandies (4)
- 2. Not a swift-sounding river (4)
- 3. And Pythias should follow (5)
- 4. Around Berkeley Square (two words, 4, 3)
- 5. The clue to this might be 28 (7)
- 7. It is all over the place (10)
- 8. A sovereign and an admiral have both gained wings (10)
- 11. "Up U.S.S.R.!" (anagr.) (6)
- 14. A writer whose name lent weight to a city (10)
- 15. It sounds just the shire for a fellow who rides to hounds (10)
- 17. Did his set compose it for a degree? (6)
- 20. Without being advanced it may still be in the van (7)
- 21. "A spread" (anagr.) (7)
- 24. A form of speech that needs another letter in go? (5)
- 25. The end of 28 (4)
- 26. Star turn (4)



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COUNTRY LIFE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1941

Vol. LXXXIX. No. 2297.



Compton Collier

103 West End Lane, N.W.6

THE HON. MRS. RICHARD HAMILTON-RUSSELL

Mrs. Hamilton-Russell, who is the elder daughter of Lord and Lady Rotherwick, was married in 1939 to Major the Hon. Richard Hamilton-Russell, 17/21 Lancers, second son of Viscount and Viscountess Boyne. Their little son is six months old

COUNTRY LIFE

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"Country Life" Crossword No. 574 p. xv.

POSTAL CHARGES.—The Editor reminds correspondents and contributors that any communications requiring a reply must be accompanied by the requisite stamps. Notice is given that MSS. submitted will not be returned unless this condition is complied with.

POSTAGES ON THIS ISSUE : INLAND 2½d., CANADA 1½d., ABROAD 2½d.

THE COST OF LIVING

WHEN the Ministry of Labour decided in 1936 to undertake an enquiry into the household "budgets" of working-class households, there was considerable trepidation in a good many quarters. The intention was impeccable. The main purpose was—in official language—to provide material for a revision of the basis of the official statistics generally known as the "cost-of-living index figures." At the same time the Ministry wanted perhaps less than anybody else to lay themselves open to the suspicion of peeping and prying and generally enquiring into matters which did not officially concern them. However, thanks to their most efficient system of Employment Exchanges, they were the people obviously qualified for the task ; and the task, if equity was to be preserved, must obviously be undertaken. The "cost-of-living index figures" are the basis of the regulation of wages, and were instituted, in 1914, before the Ministry of Labour existed, "with the object" (to quote officialese again) "of providing an indication of the average percentage charged, month by month, in the cost of maintaining the standard of living then prevailing among working-class families." Roughly, this meant that the time had come for a new scale of figures to be arrived at which could be used in those courts of arbitration which had superseded the earlier inevitable resort to a strike or a threat of one. Such a review would also clearly have supplied us with figures on the requirements and purchases in the way of food and other particular commodities among those of us who make up the bulk of the nation. It is difficult to-day to look back and realise that the enquiry was undertaken entirely for "peace-time purposes," and tempting to think of the good purpose to which it might have been put, had peace-time endured.

To-day we have to regard it as a picture of "normal" life in this country in the dubious peace-time of some years ago. It is impossible here to discuss in detail the Ministry's method of obtaining figures. They took precautions to make sure of a representative collection of budgets drawn from different types of family and fairly distributed over the country. The average weekly household expenditure, calculated on four seasonal budgets of the spring, summer, autumn, and winter, was 86s. 3d., and if this figure is corrected to remove what is thought to be an over-statement of expenditure on clothing (twelve per cent.) it will still stand at 85s. This average expenditure was not drawn entirely from the wages of one earner. The average number of wage or salary earners was 1½ and the average family consisted of 3½ persons, of whom nearly 2½ were eighteen years of age or over and one was a child under fourteen years. As the enquiry was into expenditure alone nothing can be said about incomes or savings, except the savings represented by insurance premiums and payments to pensions funds and any part of trade union payments which may be contributions to friendly society benefits.

In the Ministry of Labour's present cost of living index the classifications employed are the following : Food, 60 per cent. ; rent, 16 per cent. ; clothing, 12 per cent. ; fuel and light, 8 per cent. ; and "other items," 4 per cent.

To-day we all of us have to cut our coats according to the cloth available, and, in some senses, the figures of 1937 are academic. But they give us a general picture of the organisation of the bulk of British household economy : a picture which must always be kept in view by those who control our wages policy, who apportion the burden of our taxes, to arrange our national dietary in time of war, and whose duty it is to insist on the maintenance of our social services. It is clear that the present method of computing the cost-of-living index is hopelessly out of date, but, useful though it is, the

Ministry of Labour's Report clearly does not provide us with the information we want for a revised cost-of-living index for to-day. Soaring prices and controlled or arbitrary or casual shortages in themselves influence household expenditure. From the point of view of preventing inflation it may be well that, though prices rise, the volume of retail sales should contract. The current issue of the *Board of Trade Journal* shows that the money value of daily sales reported for November was only .3 per cent. higher in 1940 than in 1939. Trade for November has now stood at practically the same level in value for three successive years but the contraction in volume is more than substantial. This as we say, may be sound national finance, but it is bound to have a radical effect on the balancing of working-class budgets.

WASTES AND COMMONS

THERE are still large areas of Britain not pulling their weight in food production, though, in counties where there is a war agricultural committee 100 per cent. efficient, a beginning has been made with the most notorious examples of wasted land—the commons. A result of the last Enclosures many of these are, no doubt, only the least cultivable remnants of the old common pasturelands. Yet most of them have tumbled down to their characteristic growth of furze owing to their long neglect by the commoners. Many, though by no means all, commons are on poor, sandy or gravelly soil. But the largest instance of that type of land still unreclaimed is not common land and an Australian, Mr. W. S. Kelly, has done a useful service in drawing attention to it in *The Times*. Breckland, as it is called, is that waste of heathery, sandy land on the border of Norfolk and Suffolk, where the Forestry Commission have made large plantations in recent years. The soil is extraordinarily thin, but so, not long ago, was that of some of the most productive farms in England. The first Coke of Norfolk created the Holkham estate in just such a wilderness, where, as Horace Walpole put it, it was a common sight to see two rabbits fighting for one blade of grass. Mr. Kelly points out that very similar land in Australia, with much the same rainfall and far worse scrub, has been turned into good clover and lucerne pasture. There the change has been brought about by first ploughing, then sowing a fodder crop to be grazed by sheep, followed by a legume which is grazed for some years, after which a couple of grain crops are taken before reverting to a legume. Comparable husbandry has reclaimed very large sandy areas in Denmark and Holland to their present high state of fertility. To reclaim Breckland permanently would be a big undertaking now, with the present limitations of labour and the distant prospect of a full return. But a joint agricultural committee of the counties involved could probably increase its pasture value in two or three years sufficiently to make the undertaking worth while even in war-time.

COMMON SENSE AND FIRE-FIGHTING

VALUABLE as deep shelters would have been—and the improvised use of the Tubes has proved itself—for women and children who have lost their homes or prefer not to be evacuated, the war will not be won by going to ground. The failure of the Maginot Line showed that ; and it has been proved again by the success with which incendiary bombs have been dealt with when there have been sufficient volunteers at hand to deal with them. Some such "first-aid" fire service as that announced by the Home Secretary should, of course, have been perfected long ago. The problem is primarily one of organising the available ready helpers, and of ensuring that they shall be where they are needed. Already amateur fire-fighters, including spirited boys and gallant old ladies, have shown how effective "first-aid" measures can be, in innumerable places, country no less than cities. But some of our most cherished antiquities, and busiest city centres, equally show what happens when unorganised watchers are not ready where they are needed. This, often enough, is where they would not naturally be at any given time : on the church tower or in the office at midnight, for instance. In organising the new service on a voluntary basis in the first instance, the Government rightly acknowledges the general readiness to serve and also the fact that numbers, though necessary, are not so immediately important as efficiency. But the far-reaching powers of compulsion are there to show that this is a vitally important matter, particularly for premises normally vacated at nightfall. An unbelievable number of these have been left locked up and unwatched, and even institutions with valuable or historic possessions have not, in many cases, taken the obvious precaution of evacuating them to places of safety. That is the moral of the destruction of the lovely contents of Trinity House, for instance. The most perfect organisation of fire-fighters cannot ensure complete safety, so that, even if premises suffer, irreplaceable records and works of art should be sent away from danger areas.

CHURCHES: AFTER-DAMAGE CARE

AFTER the bombs come hefty "Amps," splendid fellows who in remarkably short space of time can clear away not only the débris but whatever of walls and fittings are left : most necessary work in the case of ordinary buildings, but capable of inflicting irreparable losses to a damaged church. Structure that might be skilfully preserved may be demolished through ignorance of its value and history ; damage glass and broken monuments thrown away which could be pieced together. To guard against this the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects some months ago recommended to bishops and other ecclesiastical authorities that in every diocese a panel of architects with the necessary qualifications should be formed who, with small parties of faithful workers, were prepared to be immediately available to supervise first aid to damaged churches—or other buildings of historic importance. Only in some cases has this advice been acted upon. Meanwhile, a great many churches have incurred damage, and in some cases

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

*Snipe and Duck—The Oyster-shell of Yesterday—The Morning Egg—
A Dog Thought-reader*

BY MAJOR C. S. JARVIS.

THE bright spot about a cold spell from a shooting man's point of view is that normally it brings with it wildfowl from the frozen north—snipe, woodcock, and the rarer breeds of duck—but so far as this part of the world is concerned the recent frosty weather imported little beyond sea-gulls, an icy wind, and the germs of influenza cold. The few widgeon and teal who paid us a visit must have come from a very well gunned area, as they rose at one hundred and fifty yards and flew straight out to sea again.

With the meat ration in my mind I walked three miles of frozen water meadow looking for snipe, but the wet patches that held a few a month ago were deserted because a thick crust of ice covered the water channels. This ice was of that particularly irritating quality that is thick enough to prevent the insertion of a snipe's beak into the mud beneath, but not strong enough to exclude the possibility of a man going through and filling his boots with freezing bog slime.

A most aggravating and uncertain bird is the snipe, owing to his faddy ideas about feeding, and one never knows, or at least I do not, where he is likely to be found on a given day. After a spell of warm, muggy weather, which is all against southern snipe traditions, one walks the water meadows with No. 4 shot hoping for a duck, and suddenly blunders upon a patch of wet land that ejects a couple of snipe from every tuft of rushes, so that the air is full of the small birds flying skilfully through the large pattern. The following day, with a pocketful of No. 8s, one visits the same spot and nothing rises except a poaching heron from the stream, and No. 8s are no good against this old villain.

Normally, in boggy meadows, snipe appear to frequent those patches on which cattle have been feeding for some time, and where the ground has been well manured for the breeding of insects. There is no certainty about this theory, however, and one may meet many birds on a marsh that has not seen cattle for over a year, while a well churned-up area near by is tenantless.

* * *

THOSE who keep poultry on land that is naturally deficient in lime will have been struck by the enormous amount of broken oyster-shell the hens will eat, or, alternatively, if this commodity is not supplied, will have been surprised by the number of soft-shelled eggs they obtain. The cocks, who do not have to produce an egg complete with stout lime-composite shell every other day, apparently wonder why the female of their species pays so much attention to this tasteless, unappetising substance, but when one takes into consideration the comparative size of the hen and the weight of the egg one realises the necessity for putting into her a large quantity of suitable raw material for the manufacture of the finished product.

One imagined in one's ignorance that crushed oyster-shell would not figure among those waste products that are now severely rationed or unobtainable, but one was wrong, for it appears that, like so many other things we import from abroad, oyster-shell also comes from America. When one thinks of those famous Colchester feasts at the beginning of the "r" months with Plus Four "oysterists" putting away four dozen at a sitting, and remembers the clatter of empty shells at lunch and dinner time at the Ritz, Savoy, Dorchester and Claridge's—not to mention loaded dishes at various well known oyster bars throughout the land—one wonders why some keen-sighted business man failed to take advantage of the opportunity to sell a waste product that could have been obtained for the cost of collection.

* * *

IF there is a good thing about war, which sometimes seems doubtful, it is the little lessons we learn about our shortcomings in various directions, not the least of which is the vast amount of imported stuff that comes into this country which, with a little initiative, we could produce ourselves. Crushed oyster-shell may sound supremely unimportant to those who have no knowledge of the difficulty of producing their morning egg, but the morning egg is now a very vital and prized part of our food supply. The hen cannot manage to put the egg on the market without lime in some form, and every hen requires one ounce a week. If I happened to know the number of hens in this country, together with the acreage of the Colchester oyster-beds, I would go on with further boring statistics, but as I do not I will only mention the garden boy is digging into my rubbish heap in search of oyster-shells thrown away with care-free, pre-war profligacy. As it is a long time since I was sufficiently profligate to buy oysters, he will have to dig a long way.

* * *

THREE are quite a number of people who, in their rooted objection to anything that hints of a psychic nature, refuse to believe there is any truth in the theory of thought transference. I remember some twenty-five years ago a married couple who gave demonstrations at the various London music-halls. Many people were sceptical about their turn being genuine thought-reading, and suggested that they had some secret code.

Their performance consisted of the wife being seated blindfolded on the stage while the husband went round the audience borrowing various articles from them and asking his wife to describe them. I saw them on two occasions, and if the explanation of their skill was a secret code their performance was even more remarkable, for I should have thought no code could have been comprehensive enough to describe some of the unusual articles the wife was called upon to identify. I remember I handed over a game licence, and the husband asked: "What is this I hold in my hand?" The wife said: "It is a piece



IN BRECKLAND

It's Dyke, between Brandon and Stoke Ferry on the Suffolk border. It is suggested that large areas of this light, infertile soil could be reclaimed to food production

as spread from them to other valuable property. An old and effective precaution which has lapsed, but should at once be revived, is the provision of a ladder outside every church. It would be a good thing if architects and members of such bodies as the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings should take the initiative in offering their services unofficially to vicars, if higher authorities have not moved in this matter.

RUG'LARLY FLUMMOXED

THE votaries of Kipling at home who telegraphed to General Wavell their congratulations on the defeat of Tabaqui and received so neat and apposite an answer as to Shere Khan may have set a fashion that will tax commanding officers in the hour of victory. Admirers of Miss Austen, of Sherlock Holmes, of the *Ingoldsby Legends*, will not want their favourite put in the shade and they too will send their telegrams, so that some staff officer will have to be provided with a dictionary of quotations in order that his general may not be shamed. Surely Pickwickians, who can generally find in their great work something appropriate to any situation in life, will not be backward, and yet they seem so far to have missed an opportunity. No one of them has cited the remark of Mr. Weller senior: "If your governor don't prove a allybi he'll be what the Italians call reg'lary flummoxed." Some of the generals at Bardia would appear to have appreciated the quotation; at any rate, they did their best to provide themselves with an alibi in the desert. They did not succeed, but they knew their Pickwick.

SARAH MacKINNON'S SONG

(To the tune "Gleann an Gollaiddh")

It was dark in the dairy,
And the byre and the fold;
In summer it's airy,
But in winter so cold.
Oh in winter 'tis freezing,
It is midwinter now:
And I cuddle my head in
To the flanks of my cow.

Oh it's heaving and turning,
And hours on your feet,
And I've ached at the churning,
But my butter is sweet!
Oh in winter 'tis freezing,
It is midwinter now:
But I cuddle my head in
To the flanks of my cow.

NAOMI MITCHISON.

A GREAT LONDONER

ATHOUGH Lord Wakefield was a Liverpool man by birth, resided principally at Hythe, and was known world-wide for his interests and benefactions, he was as essentially a Londoner as Dick Whittington, whom he was one of the most notable successors as Lord Mayor. Many tributes have naturally been paid to his services to speed, in which he saw a means for knitting the world more closely together, and to his contributions to mutual understanding among the English-speaking races. But, when London is being rough-hewn, it is good to remember some of the things that he did for his city. The collection of old drawings and water-colours of London made and given to the Guildhall Art Gallery is a record as delightful as it is useful to the topographer; and the *Great Chronicle of London*, given to the Guildhall Library, a possession all the more precious for the fact that it has since survived. The British Museum owes to him the log-book in the *Victory*, and, in large measure, the *Codex Tudicetus*; the Thomas à Becket Cup and the Armada Jewel. The tessellated pavement made by the Tower Hill Improvement Trust is also to a great extent due to his active support.

of printed paper." She was then called upon to describe it and, being a foreigner, naturally knew nothing about game licences, but she said it was a Government permit to shoot, and gave its serial number and date.

* * *

I imagine that everyone who owns an intelligent dog, who is a friend in the best sense of the word, realises that he or she reads thoughts and understands them far quicker than any words or commands. I am constantly reminded of this by the behaviour of my Aberdeen, who disconcerts me by his ability to know exactly what is in my mind. At odd times of the day, occasionally in the early morning and sometimes at dusk, I see from the window a rabbit in the garden, and for the sake of my vegetables and everything else it is essential that I shoot that rabbit and kill him. The ordinary dead rabbit to-day is worth as much as one shilling and tenpence, but the price on the head of this

particular rabbit is in the neighbourhood of five pounds, as that is what he has cost me in keep.

Often when I see the marauder the Aberdeen is fast asleep in front of the fire, but the moment I steal out of the room to fetch my gun he realises what is about to happen, and awakening with a startling clamour dashes to every window, yelling in his excitement and knocking over flower-pots and inkstands. By the time I arrive at a convenient upstairs window for a clear shot the rabbit is a hundred yards away in dense rhododendron.

Originally I was under the impression he overheard me remark that I had seen a rabbit and was going to fetch my gun, so now, when the rare opportunity arises, I say nothing. Instead, I try to walk out of the room in a nonchalant, easy manner, whistling a soothing lullaby; but my natural histrionic ability, that has bluffed policemen, Customs officials, and even "Brass Hats," is of no use at all with this Scottie terrier, whose brain is always tuned in to read my innermost thoughts.

THE HOME OF TRISTRAM SHANDY AND THE WOODEN TOMB BELIEVED TO CONTAIN THE BODY OF OLIVER CROMWELL

By S. B. P. MAIS



COXWOLD: "Here is a village with a church as beautiful as Northleach"

YOU remember Keats's violent outburst on visiting Kirk Alloway: "Oh! The cant and flummery of birthplaces." After visiting that astonishing mausoleum and watching the gaping crowds passing through the turnstiles at Burns's birthplace I realised that Keats was right. Literary shrines are places to avoid if you wish to keep your vision inviolate.

The only exception that I had to this until recently was Johnson's birthplace in

Lichfield, a shrine that would have pleased the Rambler almost as much as Burns's museum would have displeased the amorous ploughboy.

I say until recently, for quite by accident I have just found another. I was on my way from Thirsk, for ever memorable to me for a saddler craftsman and the prettiest serving-maid I ever set eyes on, to Newburgh Priory to see the alleged last resting-place of Cromwell's remains.

I know the Hambleton Hills well, and have always admired Rievaulx as the most perfectly situated abbey, with the possible exception of Fountains, of any in the kingdom, but I had not before realised that on this western foot there lay clustered close together within a mile or so from each other three of the most picturesque sights in Britain, and each of them with an historic interest to match their beauty.

I came to Coxwold first. I knew, of course, that Laurence Sterne had been perpetual curate there for an all-important eight years (1760-68), during which he wrote *Tristram Shandy* and *A Sentimental Journey*, but as for two of those years he was at Toulouse with his lunatic wife and beloved daughter, and in the last of them died a bankrupt in lodgings in Old Bond Street, I had jumped to the conclusion that he was an absentee rector and neither cared for Coxwold nor was cared about by his Yorkshire parishioners. But here are two letters of his to show how wrong I was. The first is in answer to a letter of congratulation on his appointment:

I return to my new habitation fully determined to write as hard as can be, and thank you most cordially for your letter of congratulation. 'Tis seventy guineas a year in my pocket, though worth a hundred, but obliges me to have a curate at Sutton and Stillington. 'Tis within a mile of Lord Fauconberg's seat and park. 'Tis a very agreeable ride out in the chaise I purchased for my wife. Lydia has a pony which she delights in. Whilst they take these diversions I am scribbling away at my "Tristram." I shall write as long as I live: 'tis, in fact, my hobby-horse: and so much am I delighted with my Uncle Toby's imaginary character that I am become an enthusiast. Mrs Lydia helps to copy for me, and my wife knows and listens as I read her chapters.

The second letter gives a pretty clear indication of his feelings towards his Yorkshire home:

I am as happy as a prince at Coxwold, and I wish you could see in how princely a manner



Walter Scott

SHANDY HALL: HOME OF LAURENCE STERNE, 1760-68
Here he wrote *Tristram Shandy* and *The Sentimental Journey*

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live. 'Tis a land of plenty: I sit alone down to venison, fish, and wild fowl, or a couple of fowls or ducks, with curds, strawberries and cream, and all the simple plenty which a rich valley can produce, with a clean cloth on my table, and a bottle of wine on my right hand to drink your health. I have a hundred hens and chickens about my yard, and not a parishioner catches a hare, or a rabbit, or a trout, but he brings it as an offering to me. I am in high spirits. Care never enters this cottage. I take the air every day in my post-chaise with two long-tailed horses.

With these two letters fresh in my memory I came to Coxwold, and in the very first sight of that unique octagonal church tower standing lonely on the summit of the green knoll I fell under its spell.

The words that came into my mind as I neared and looked up the gentle slope of broad village street with its dark brown and green roofs, white and grey walls, high red cobbled causeways, old gables and tall chimneys crowned by the pierced battlements of crocketed pinnacles of the fifteenth-century arch, were just the words that I associate with Sterne, genial, harmonious, quiet, colour-exquisite taste, woven together into a homogeneous entity that seemed artless, a perfect example, like *Tristram Shandy*, of what hides art.

I was, I am sure, lucky to come on it like a complete surprise. No one had ever tested to me that Coxwold, apart altogether from its associations, possessed an architectural or scenic glory worthy of comparison with the glory of the great Cotswold wool towns, where there was a village with a church as beautiful as Northleach and a street as lovely, though not so steep, as that of Burford.

I was totally unprepared for the gables, stone mullions and rich warm stone of the ancient Grammar School, Colville Hall, or the sturdy old inn, the Fauconberg Arms, with the huge centuries-old wych elm standing sentinel in mid-street.

And at the top of the rise beyond the very handsome rectory, standing as it should in lonely isolation, is the creeper-covered, two-storeyed, twin-gabled, tall-chimneyed "cottage," Shandy Hall, with its modest plaque let into the wall bearing the inscription: Here dwelt Laurence Sterne, many years incumbent of Coxwold.

Here he wrote "*Tristram Shandy*" and "*The Sentimental Journey*." Died in London in 1768. Aged 55 years.

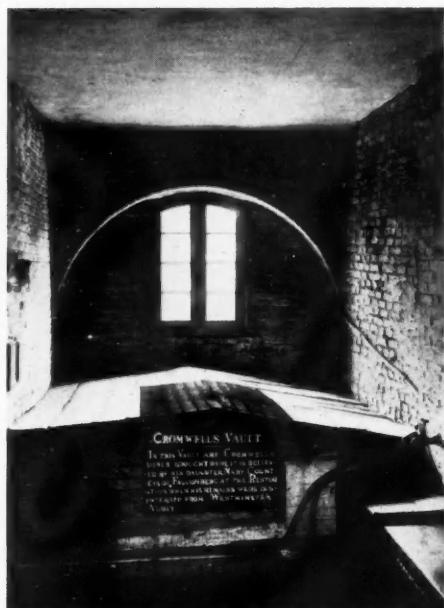
From here Sterne looked out over the road through a single line of pines and beech trees to the wide vista of rich undulating country known as the Vale of Mowbray, a paradise for the sportsman whether riding to hounds or walking-up partridges.

Now there is neither flummery nor cant about Shandy Hall. It is no show place, and you are shown neither Sterne's bed nor Uncle Toby's chair. You are shown nothing, for you cannot gain admittance. It is run as an honest-to-goodness farmhouse, and farmers have neither leisure nor inclination for souvenir-hunters or shrine-worshippers.

Whether the story that the house contains



NEWBURGH PRIORY. Home of the Belasyse family, one of whom married Oliver Cromwell's daughter, and later of Sir George Wombwell



CROMWELL'S VAULT, NEWBURGH PRIORY

a complete set of Sterne first editions is true or not I do not greatly care, in spite of the fact that I am myself a collector of Sterne "firsts." I was so glad to find that the house remains completely unspoilt that I quickly overcame my first slight feeling of disappointment at failing to see its interior, and wandered back to the church, where I saw the unusual sight (which

would have delighted Sterne) of a motoring party spreading out its picnic luncheon on a flat tombstone.

I had been taken unawares by the magnificence of the church's exterior, but the interior is even more surprising, not so much for its wealth of rich monuments, which I found rather overpowering, as for a unique set of low altar rails which ran right out into the aisle in the shape of a horse-shoe or the letter U to enable communicants to celebrate all together. The ceiling of the church is of heavy oak with richly coloured bosses bearing the arms of the Percys. The tracery lights of the nave windows are filled with lovely glass dating from the fifteenth century. The monuments commemorate past Lords of Newburgh—Belaseses, one of whom married Cromwell's daughter Mary, and later Wombwells, into whose family the Belaseses married, and in whose possession the Priory still remains, though the house itself is temporarily occupied by a boys' preparatory school evacuated from the south.

The present owner courteously took me over the grounds and house of the Priory, which is remarkable for its rich tapestries, magnificent collection of china and wealth of portraits by Gainsborough, Reynolds, Lawrence and other Old Masters. I was particularly struck with the portrait of Sir George Wombwell, the hero of the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava.

But of course the point of outstanding interest is the curious huge wooden receptacle in which are supposed to lie the remains of Cromwell, rescued by his daughter at the Restoration. Next door to this vault is a room known as the "Unfinished Room." Any owner of the Priory who sets about completing this room dies untimely within the year.

The third point of interest in this area is the vast ruin of Byland Abbey, built between 1177 and 1203 by the Cistercian monks who had been driven by the Scots out of Calder, Cumberland, and were granted this site for their sanctuary by Roger de Mowbray, whose body lay here for six hundred years. Here came that astonishing Saxon warrior Wymund, who as Bishop of Sodor and Man laid claim to the throne of Scotland, had his eyes put out in defeat, and in old age was released to live in peace at Byland. Here, at the battle of Byland Abbey, Edward II suffered an inglorious defeat and narrowly escaped capture.

There are plenty of reminders of other troublous days as one looks up at the shattered arches, lofty tower and roofless framework of this once mighty fane. But that west front, with its broken wheel-like window and one thin tall remaining pinnacle pointing hopefully to the sky, remains eternally in the mind as a symbol of something indestructible in the English spirit.

Yorkshire is, as Virgil said of the island of Tenedos, rich in nearly everything that delights the heart of man, but in this district round Coxwold she has crammed infinite riches in a little room, and the glory of it is that it is all unspoilt.



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er Scott

BYLAND ABBEY, NEAR COXWOLD. One of the loveliest ruined Abbeys in Yorkshire

London that is to be.—IV

SHOULD LONDON ARCHITECTURE BE CONTROLLED?

By PROFESSOR PATRICK ABERCROMBIE

Professor Abercrombie, whose plan for Dublin has recently been accepted, contrasts the need and the means for controlling the design of buildings with the practical and economic obstacles. It is interesting to find one of the foremost town-planners summing up against too rigid control generally, though asking for notable amendments in the existing statutory framework. But he wants the more important London streets controlled by an architectural authority, such as Sir Edwin Lutyens's Royal Academy Committee, appointed and supported by the Ministers of Health and Works.

THE question is asked: how is it possible to obtain satisfactory aesthetic effects in civic design—streets, squares, traffic intersections, groups of buildings, town gardens and parks—under the present condition of the art of architecture, or rather the possible conditions after the war? The answer is not an easy one, for it must be premised that we shall not be able to wait for an aesthetic millennium when everyone will instinctively do that which is right in the eyes of architects and public alike.

There are, of course, two extremes: complete individual freedom and complete communal regimentation. The latter would seem to be more possible than the former, since architecture in towns is so closely bound up with economic, traffic, health and other considerations, that it cannot avoid being interfered with. Indeed, civic design cannot and should not escape from reflecting the state of society. But the question arises, is the architect himself likely to continue to practise privately? If he does survive as a free artist, he will press for a certain amount of freedom of design. Or is the profession to be commandeered by the State, and are all architects to become Civil Servants?

It must not be forgotten that both these extremes—freedom and regimentation—have been practised satisfactorily in the past. Not to delve too far into the dark backward and abyss of time, those advanced mediaeval cities of the Low Countries and South Germany appear to have enjoyed almost perfect architectural freedom. I have always strenuously denied Camillo Sitte's thesis that there was some secret controller at work, producing harmony out of mediaeval exuberance. I am convinced that the results we can still, we hope, see to-day (or some day) in Bruges or Rothenburg are due to unconscious common factors of design and use of material. In the other extreme there are the equally satisfactory regular effects to be seen in Turin or the New Town of Edinburgh, where clearly no individual licence was allowed. Regimentation must never be confused with monotony—if the results are monotonous it means that the regimenting architect was a dull dog and didn't make use of his opportunities for variety and even surprise. Somewhere between these two extremes, neither of which is likely to be allowed, must be found a means of ensuring that London

as re-built after the air-raid destruction will at any rate be as beautiful and in many quarters a more hygienic and cheerful city. Nothing, of course, can replace the priceless old buildings so many of which are being destroyed.

THE CASE FOR FREEDOM

The chief difficulty in arriving at a just balance between freedom and control is that there is so much variance of opinion both among architects and the general public. There is a sharp cleavage in the architectural profession: many of the younger members, who politically may be more communally minded, paradoxically clamour for complete freedom from control: they fear that control will inevitably get into the hands of older men who will use it to stifle originality. For fear of losing one brilliant, daring modernism, we must, they imply, put up with glaring incompetent vulgarities. They forget that urban architecture is largely a communal art, that the majority of building requires to be up to a competent standard, and that the public should be protected from anything that falls below it. No one, for example, expects to find a masterpiece in a branch bank, say, at Ealing Broadway—something that contributes its quota to its surroundings is all that can be expected: but the headquarters of the same bank in the City should be an outstanding work. Can they both be dealt with under the same clause or machinery? The whole subject, indeed, bristles with difficulties: everyone considers he has an opinion to offer. And yet how many people, even if they have good taste in other works of art, have ever given serious analytic thought to the town or landscape effects which they admire or to the disfigurements which they deplore? You will hear, for example, an old cottage praised for being in perfect harmony with its surroundings, when really it owes its effect to being in sharp contrast in form or colour (often both) with them.

It is not always easy to draw simple conclusions from well-known examples. Regent Street, as left by Nash, was an example of one-man control (though individual architects contributed, as Cockerell in the Hanover Chapel). When re-building was due, though it was on Crown land and accordingly anything could have been enforced, a very considerable relaxation was allowed. The worst disaster threatened—the Norman Shaw design for the Quadrant—

was averted by Sir Reginald Blomfield; but no one has much to say in favour of the general appearance of the rest, and Liberty's building seems to have been designed for another site. Yet it would not be safe to say that old Regent Street exhibited the virtues of strict control and new Regent Street the vices of licence: for firstly, Nash was planning for low buildings which suited the proportions, length and width, of his street and circuses; and secondly, he was working in a much more accomplished and certain type of architectural treatment. Both of these factors are in favour of old as against new Regent Street. In one respect only can the new be said to be better, namely, in material—fine stone, mostly Portland, against painted stucco.

HEIGHT THE CRUX

These three factors—height, architectural treatment, and materials—represent roughly the subdivisions under which town architecture may be grouped for purposes of civic design. Of these height is the most difficult (if design be the most delicate) to deal with, as it is closely bound up with economics. The price that is paid for a London frontage largely depends, in the business areas at any rate, on the height to which the builder is allowed to go. The use of the word "reasonable" which covers the Minister's powers of height control under a planning scheme will have to be more freely interpreted than it has been in the past, if we are to prevent the demands for increased height which are so difficult to refuse at present. The London County Council schemes in their present tentative stage have made various proposals for height control by means of angles. There are also different zones of maximum height. But there is one suggestion which, while sounding reasonable from a use zoning point of view, may work out very disastrously from an architectural: it is suggested that different heights should be allowed according to the different uses permitted within the zone. Thus in a Georgian square, in process of redevelopment, if one building is a dwelling-house, another a hotel, a third a block of offices, and a fourth technically can be described as a factory (and there are such in some of the old squares), each of these may be allowed to build up to a different height. It may be said that there should not be such a mix-up of users in the same square or street: but it is extremely



ROTHENBURG. The harmony resulting from unconscious factors of design and material



PARIS, RUE DE RIVOLI. Regimentation. The other extreme but satisfactory when imaginatively applied



REGENT STREET AS LEFT BY NASH
"An example of one-man control"

ficult in the centre of a modern town to serve a rigid zoning of use, especially in those areas, and they are everywhere, which are undergoing a gradual transformation. Here is a case where planning control, which may be reasonable for economic or social purposes, y be fatal for artistic purposes.

In any requirements imposed for the purpose of civic composition, architectural design and materials are not to any extent likely to involve economic considerations : at any rate, in town buildings. (There is always the controversy in suburban work whether solid, simple, good building does not cost more than shoddy, meretricious stuff). Indeed, the Royal Fine Arts Commission has generally been able to point to a saving in cost which its recommendations have entailed. But the saving may be effected by pruning away some architectural exuberance which the designer is loath to part with : individuality being required to give way for the sake of general effect.

EXISTING MEANS OF CONTROL

At present, apart from the Royal Fine Arts Commission, which deals chiefly with public buildings referred to it by the Ministries of Health and Transport and the Office of Works, and whose functions are entirely advisory, control of design in the external appearance of buildings is legally exercisable by any local authority which has been empowered to prepare a planning scheme or has had one approved. There is no legal obligation for the authority to take any advice ; but Parliament, recognising that artistic matters are on a different footing from economic or health considerations, did provide for a special tribunal of appeal from the decision of the planning authority. This tribunal is intended as a safeguard to the designer ; but it is a cumbersome and negative way of trying to arrive at a result, and it entails waiting until the controversy has hardened, instead of dealing with it at an earlier and more fluid stage. In point of fact, the town-planning committee does frequently employ advice, but it retains absolute freedom as to

whether it acts upon it or not. This is a fatal weakness in the present Act. The requirement to seek advice at the early stage should be as obligatory as that of accepting the award of a tribunal of appeal at a later.

But if advice be obligatory, who is to tender it ? If the official available to the committee—whether the borough or county architect or an architecturally qualified town-planning officer—is employed, there is a danger that he may have, or grow into having, stereotyped or rigid views. To the C.P.R.E., in conjunction with the R.I.B.A., must be given the credit of inventing the democratic panel system, in which the advice is given by a group of architects elected by their fellows for the purpose. This system has so far only been applied to rural or quasi-rural conditions and the advice has been given voluntarily, without remuneration : but in the comparatively few places where the system has been adopted by the planning committee, and the advice followed, the results have been remarkable. So, it must be conceded, have been the official results in many areas, especially where the officer or his architectural assistant is young and ardent, and the committee willing to profit by their enthusiasm. I do not see why a paid panel system should not be applied to London for the less architecturally important areas.

THE NEEDS OF LONDON

But, after all, such control is chiefly useful for bringing poor quality stuff up to a decent level. London requires something more than this, for which reason we should all welcome Sir Edwin Lutyens's R.A. Committee, which, under such a Chairman, can be satisfied only by constructive, positive, first-rate design. And I believe for this purpose certain streets and squares must be taken out of the normal administration of the schemes, and powers obtained for original designs to be adopted. I hope, if this is done, architects will be reasonable and make their designs sufficiently flexible to allow for a certain amount of individual requirements. To illustrate this point, let us



W. F. Taylor
THE SAME VIEW TO-DAY. "Though anything could have been enforced, considerable relaxation was allowed"

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turn to Nash again : on the Quadrant was imposed a perfectly rigid ordonnance (as tight as that of the Rue de Rivoli), as also on the circuses and Waterloo Place ; but considerable variety was allowed elsewhere. A more recent example of this combination of rigidity and flexibility can be seen in that extended piece of urban architecture in Haifa, designed and supervised for the Government of Palestine by Clifford Holliday and Pierce Hubbard : a railway station, bank, post office, and long blocks of shops and business premises are in process of being welded into a coherent scheme. How lamentable can be the results of merely negative treatment under existing planning powers (at the interim and relatively weaker stage) may be seen in almost any London square or residential street.

Quite recently I have been living in Abingdon, one of the most architecturally rich and charming towns in the south of England : throughout its streets are many gaps, like missing teeth ; one group also is standing, or rather tottering, with broken windows near the church : East and West St. Helen Streets are indeed among the most attractive urban scenes in the country. (Fortunately, unlike London, these gaps and rickets are not due to enemy action.) I have urged that now is the time to employ a first-rate architect to make a series of studies (his programme of requirements is not complete enough for more) for filling in and re-building : he should then be retained to negotiate with builders when they come to build. I believe that even with our comparatively feeble powers much, if not all, that we want could be done, if we have a constructive vision to work to, administer its execution courageously and reasonably, and can count on the support of the Minister of Health (who is the court of appeal until the tribunal is set up under the scheme). Alas ! the Minister has not always given the support that should be expected.

But in London, where economics are dominant, new and stronger powers are necessary, and we trust Lord Reith will seek to obtain them.

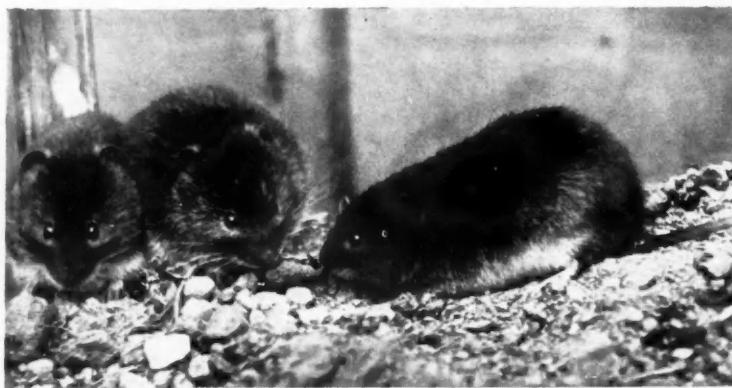


The Builder
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ORFOLK HOUSE, OLD AND NEW. AN INSTANCE OF THE UNREGULATED RE-BUILDING OF A GEORGIAN SQUARE

TEMPERAMENT IN ANIMALS

By FRANCES PITTS



SKOMER BANK VOLES

A survival found only on the island of Skomer off the Pembrokeshire coast



LESSER SHREW, SMALLEST OF LIVING MAMMALS

Its size may be judged by that of the worm beside it

WE all know that many animals differ in character and disposition, particularly our domestic ones. Most persons are aware that some dogs are jovial and "hail fellow well met" with everybody, others are sullen and stand-offish, some are obliging and some the reverse; that some horses are excitable and headstrong, and others naturally placid. But it is not so widely known how large are the temperamental differences among wild creatures.

By the word temperament I mean those innate hereditary peculiarities of character and disposition which are definitely *not* the result of upbringing and environment. The innate nature of some of these temperamental peculiarities is shown by their linkage with physical traits. It is notorious that a horse which shows the whites of its eyes is bad-tempered, untrustworthy, and apt to kick; likewise that many bright chestnut horses are "hot," just as red-headed people tend to be fiery, and that black horses are often of sluggish disposition.

With regard to showing the whites of the eyes, I have a young otter which I am calling Spitfire until some reader of COUNTRY LIFE finds her, as I requested in a recent letter, a better name. It has been reared by hand and is, in a way, very tame, yet it is a cross, bad-tempered youngster, ready to fly into a passion at the slightest excuse or without any excuse at all. Had I never had anything to do with otters before I should imagine this snappish cub, which is only with difficulty persuaded to play, to be a typical member of its species.

My previous otters, however, were the most jovial, playful and light-hearted of animals. They indulged in mad games and romped for hours at a time, but not one of them had eyes like

Spitfire's. She shows the whites of her eyes to a remarkable degree, and has precisely the same way of looking round as a bad-tempered horse. She is, in disposition, as far apart as possible from my dear old Madame Moses of regretted memory, also from Miss Aaron, though the latter, it must be admitted, was not so amiable as Moses.

To pass from differences within the species to differences between species, perhaps one of the most extraordinary of temperamental contrasts is that between those closely allied species, the domestic cat and the European wild cat. These two animals are so similar in structural details that zoologists cannot find any point in their anatomy by which one may be certainly distinguished from the other. Old beliefs that one has a longer intestine than the other, and that they differ in the number of their caudal vertebrae, are without foundation. The wild cat has somewhat stronger teeth and heavier limbs than that dignitary of Near Eastern origin who condescends to purr upon our knees, and, whereas she may wear a coat of almost any colour, pattern and texture, it sticks strictly to a jacket of grey-rusty hue and striped tabby pattern. It is only when we come to such an intangible character as temperament that we find a real and startling difference.

The domestic cat is of a naturally pleasant disposition, whereas the wild cat is of a naturally ferocious temper. In literal fact it is untamable. Many have been kept in captivity, but no wild cat has ever become a pet. My Satan, obtained as a tiny kitten and brought up with every attention, was probably as nearly tame as any cat of his species has ever been, but this is not saying much, for, once he had outgrown the small kitten stage, he was un-

touchable and fiercely resentful of human advances.

Satan's hybrid offspring—he mated with a delightful lady of Persian type—showed complete dominance of the wild type as regards general appearance, coat colour, pattern and texture of fur, also in sporting proclivities. By sporting proclivities I mean that the half-bred cats would kill anything from poultry and ducks to rabbits. So dangerous were they that it was impossible to let them run free, but they did not inherit their sire's fierce attitude towards mankind. Though a little shy with strangers, they had all their mother's pretty manners, and were charming to their friends.

Study of our dogs, horses and cats, likewise of ourselves, shows that temperamental peculiarities are strongly hereditary and, as we have already remarked, are often coupled with physical characteristics. Stout, fair persons are usually jolly, good-natured, and easy-going, while thin dark people are generally of anxious and energetic disposition. It is the same with farm animals: the bulls of the heavily fleshed breeds are usually very amiable, but one cannot say the same of the spare, active sires of the milking breeds, and it is a strange fact that the greater the amount of milk given by the cow the more likely it is that the bull will be of uncertain temper if not wicked. Evidence on this point may be obtained at any agricultural show where there is a parade of prize-winners. The beef Shorthorns, Herefords and such cattle stroll placidly around the ring, each led on a mere cord by a single attendant; but when the bulls of the great milking breeds appear, it is seen that their men have a more strenuous job. Staffs instead of cords are in most cases used for leading purposes; some



PINE MARTEN

One of the most gentle, amiable and delightful of creatures



BLACK RAT

Which loves to haunt houses and was once a carrier of plague

bulls are also blindfolded, and some need two attendants.

That temperamental differences between species may be of survival value is indicated when we turn to the smaller mammals such as mice and voles. On the island of Skomer, off the Pembrokeshire coast of Wales, is found a bank vole which occurs nowhere else. Zoologists regard it as a remnant of a once widely distributed species now supplanted in Britain by the common bank vole, which we meet with so often in gardens and coppices throughout the mainland of England, Wales and Scotland. On Skomer Island the older type of mouse persists because it is free from competition. Once, when visiting the island, I succeeded in capturing some and bringing them home alive. They settled down to cage life and had young ones. I found them amiable, easy-going little animals and not nearly so quick on the uptake as common bank voles. They were definitely slower in their reactions, and I formed the opinion that it is psychological and not physical characteristics that have led to the Skomer vole becoming a refugee on a remote island.

Another queer little temperamental difference between mice is that between the common long-tailed or wood mouse, so plentiful throughout the countryside, and the fine yellow-necked mouse. The latter is bigger and bolder and



A YELLOW-NECKED MOUSE
Actual size

frequently comes into houses, but its more timid cousin rarely does so—in fact, I have never met with a typical specimen of *Apodemus sylvaticus* within doors, though I have captured many examples of *A. flavicollis* Wintoni in the house.

A similar contrast in habits and character is found between the black and the brown rat. The so-called black or Old English rat was formerly frequent in most parts of this country, when it was largely a house rat. Its partiality for human dwellings made it an agent in the spread of those awful epidemics of plague that formerly swept the country. Rats are prone to the dread disease, infection being carried to man by means of their fleas, so when they died beneath the floors and behind the wainscoting, plague soon struck down the owners of the house. Then came the brown rat, our present too common species, in many ways a more aggressive animal, but with a preference for life in sewers and outbuildings. As the black rat (the name "black rat" is misleading, for it is as often fawn as black) gave ground before it, so did plague vanish from the land, and all because of a small temperamental peculiarity that caused the new animal to be a little less forward in house invasion, particularly when the old wood-built houses gave place to those of brick and stone.



A YOUNG FEMALE WILD CAT

In ascribing character and temperament to our countryside beasts popular opinion is often in error. It regards the stoats and weasels as ferocious, bloodthirsty little devils, whereas when you know them you find them charming, playful creatures full of the joy of living. Most of the Mustelidae—that is, the stoats, weasels, martens and polecats—are joyous animals. One of the most gentle, amiable and delightful of the creatures that it has been my good fortune to meet was a specimen of that lovely but rare beast the British pine marten, "The Mart," as she was called, was more than friendly; she was most affectionate, and oh! how she loved a game, whether it was rolling in the snow on a winter morning, or tobogganing at any time of year from my shoulders head first down my arm, to jump to the ground and climb back again as quickly as she could do so.

A truly savage animal is the shrew, that wee beast with the long nose and velvet jacket which our cats catch and kill but never eat. We have several kinds of shrew. The common shrew is the best known, and there is the black and white water shrew, also the tiny lesser shrew, notable for being the smallest of living

mammals. All the shrews are fierce and fearless, and the last-named, a mere pencil-thickness of life and devilment, is incredibly brave, being ready to attack anything, even the human hand. What a contrast to the timid hare that flees across field or moor at the slightest hint of danger!

Temperamentally the hare—I use the word hare to cover both the brown hare of the lowlands and the mountain hare of the high grounds—is a very strange mixture, at most times foolishly fearful and liable to uncontrollable panics, when it dashes madly away, yet at other times foolishly heedless of danger, as when two "mad March hares" are so enthralled by springtime pugnacity that they are blind to all else and wage their combat regardless of lookers-on.

But space now runs short, and I must turn from the feckless hare to remark that the reputed morose badger is a jolly fellow when you know him well, and it is probably a temperamental tendency on the part of the fox, a liking to go its own way without putting trust in anybody or anything, which makes it so difficult to domesticate and unsatisfactory as a pet.



THE OTTER, MOST CHEERFUL OF ANIMALS



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1.—THE ENTRANCE FRONT AS RECONSTRUCTED BY LADY WATERFORD, 1860

"Country Life"

FORD CASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND—III THE PROPERTY OF LORD JOICEY

*Reconstructed by Sir Francis Blake (1680), Sir John Hussey-Delaval (1760), and Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford (1860),
the Castle was redecorated for the late Lord Joicey*



2.—KING JAMES'S TOWER FROM THE ROSE GARDEN

FOR village and the Castle of to-day, as regards their outward appearance at least, reflect the radiant personality of Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford, who made it her home during her thirty years' widowhood. When she died in 1861, the lineal succession of the Border fief, unbroken since William Heron built the Castle in 1338, virtually ended, though the sixth Marquess did not sell the estate to the first Lord Joicey till 1907. The late Lord Joicey, who died suddenly last year, made very extensive internal alterations, necessitated by the removal of all the original contents, and added greatly to the beauty of the gardens begun by Lady Waterford. Some modifications, too, have been made to the exterior of the house, but essentially it is as it was reconstructed for her in 1861–65 by David Bryce, the Edinburgh architect of so many Scottish baronial castles.

This family continuity was of much more than genealogical significance, for something of the wild nature, and stormy fate, of the Herons and Carrs of Ford can be traced in their successors, the fantastic Delavals, and, through them, in their descendant Henry de la Poer Beresford, third Marquess of Waterford, who inherited their fair handsome stature and, in his youth at least, their capacity for high spirits. It is related, for instance, that in the Bay of Biscay he once jumped into the sea to rescue his hat, which had blown overboard. He had, however, the fortune to marry a woman of outstanding goodness and ability, whose radiant spirit, as we look back over the tragic history of Ford, finally atoned for the long sequence of violent and foolish men and unpleasant women whose story has filled so much of these articles. Yet Lord Waterford's death in a hunting accident at Curraghmore in 1859 must have seemed to some to perpetuate the fate of Carrs and Delavals in accordance with the Ram's Head's curse.

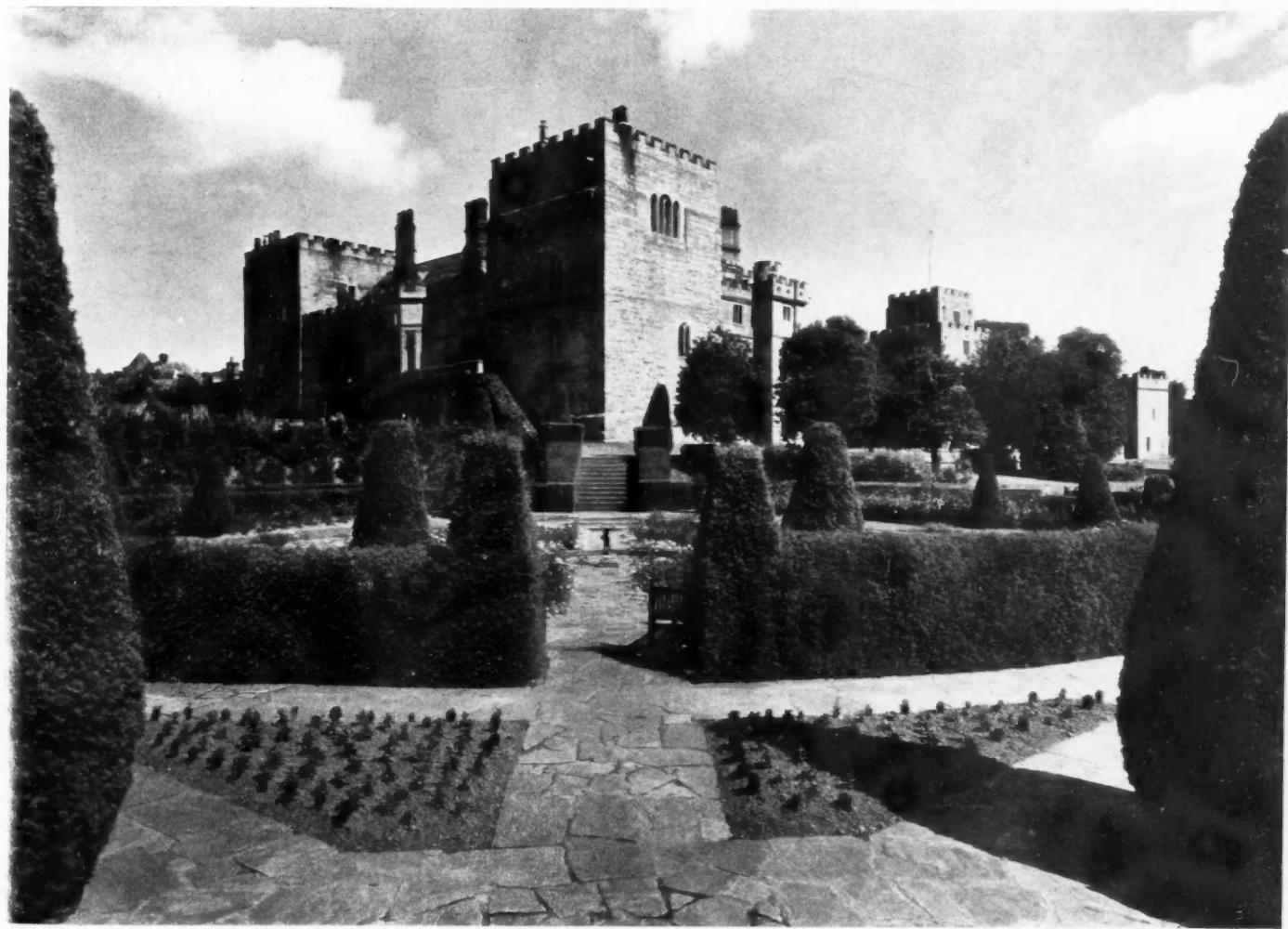
This curious story, which was well known in Lady Waterford's time, having then been repeated by an old Lady Mexborough whose mother-in-law had been a Delaval, related to an oracular pronouncement spoken by a stone ram's head, the Delaval crest, surmounting the coat of arms over the front door at Ford. "This ram's head, one day in the hearing of the steward and all the Delaval



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3.—FROM THE LAWNS: THE NORTH FRONT DESIGNED BY BRYCE. 1860
On the right is King James's Tower: the remainder is due to Lady Waterford

"Country Life"



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4.—THE ROSE GARDEN AND THE CASTLE, FROM THE NORTH-WEST

"Country Life"



5.—THE DINING-ROOM BETWEEN THE MEDIEVAL AND VICTORIAN NORTH FRONTS



6.—THE DRAWING-ROOM IN THE WEST WING



7.—THE LIBRARY. IT OCCUPIES THE EAST WING

family," so the story goes, "predicted that, so long as the Ford estate was united with that of Seaton Delaval, no male of the family should die in his bed; afterwards it preserved obstinate silence, and Mr. Delaval, in a rage, broke it in pieces." Lady Mexborough had seen the fragments of the ram's head, and certainly few of the Delavals had peaceful ends—falling off horses, down steps, overboard, dying at meals, or being killed in battles. The reason for the Fates' forebodings through the medium of this loquacious crest sends us back to Ford's history where we left it last week.

The murder of the last Thomas Carr of Ford by his step-father in 1660 left three daughters co-heiresses to the Castle. One married a Mr. Winkles, another Captain Babington of Oxfordshire, and the third Mr. (later Sir) Francis Blake, of a wealthy London clothier family whose brother, William Blake of Coggs, was one of the founders of the Witney blanket industry (he built the market cross in that town). At first the three sisters and their husbands seem to have each had apartments in the old Castle, which can only have been patched up since its sack by Sir Marmaduke Langdale's Royalists in 1648. But by 1685 Blake had bought out his brothers-in-law and sundry other Carr claimants, and forthwith undertook the fifth reconstruction of the Castle (in all there have been eight). An illustration of it as he left it in 1717 was given in the first of these articles and shows the four original towers of the square courtyard still standing, with William Carr's Elizabethan house forming the north, and a new battlemented screen wall and gateway the south side.

Sir Francis Blake had a large family of daughters, and he left Ford to his grandson Francis, Captain, R.N., the son of his daughter Mary and Edward Delaval of South Dissington, Newcastle, whose brother Admiral George Delaval built the great Vanbrugh palace at Seaton. On the Admiral's falling from his horse in 1723, Francis Blake-Delaval, as he now was, succeeded to Seaton as well as to Ford, and that was what made the ram's head speak. According to the legend, "Old Carr" (but it must have been old Francis Blake) "in leaving Ford to Francis Delaval, enjoined him, if he succeeded to Seaton, to resign Ford to Sir William Hay who inherited neighbouring Etal Castle" which anciently went with Ford. On succeeding to Seaton, however, Francis repudiated the claim and, over the front door, set up his crest, which proceeded to speak its dramatic but unmottoesque line. For nearly a century Ford's history is consequently merged in that of Seaton Delaval and Doddington, the great Elizabethan home of the Husseys in Lincolnshire, which Francis inherited, in addition to Ford and Seaton, through his wife. These chapters in Delaval history have been related in these pages in connection with those two houses, so that here a few relevant points alone need be given. As to the ram's head oracle, Ford and Seaton were separated under the will of John, Lord Delaval, in 1808, by which Seaton went to his surviving brother, while Ford was entailed on his daughter, Lady Tyrconnel, with remainder to her daughter Lady Waterford, the mother-in-law of Louisa, Lady Waterford. Old Francis Blake's desire was therefore fulfilled, and Edward, the last of the Delaval brothers, was allowed to die in his bed.

John Hussey-Delaval, before he inherited Seaton and Doddington from his elder brother Sir Francis Blake Delaval on the latter's sudden death in 1763 after a remarkably gay life, had had the management of the great Northumberland estates. He redeemed the mortgages with which it had become encumbered, and, against his reputation as "a man whose whole life was given up only to the pursuit of pleasure," can be set the remarks of a local historian: "the country round Ford which was one continued sheepwalk, he divided and enclosed with excellent hedges and clothed the bare hills with fine plantations." Evidently the woods that now chequer so much of "Flodden's fatal field," besides the stately timber in the dell and immediate surroundings of the Castle, are due to him. He also undertook the sixth reconstruction of the Castle in 1761, as illustrated in the first article. The Carr house, as remodelled by Francis Blake, was refaced as "a gingerbread castle of Udolpho"—in Augustus Hare's words, though he allowed that, as such, it

was rather a good specimen. This was the house which, a century later, Lord Waterford left to his broken-hearted widow.

Louisa Stuart was one of the two daughters of the Ambassador Lord Stuart de Rothesay, great-nephew of the first Marquess of Bute. Her sister was Lady Canning, wife of the Viceroy of India during the Mutiny. She had first met her future husband at the Eglinton Tournament—that culminating episode of fashionable romanticism in 1837 to which some of the knights travelled in the new steam trains. There the tall, radiant girl was the uncrowned "queen of beauty." She was so unworldly and unselfconscious that when, ascending the stairs at a London ball, she caught sight of herself in an unexpected mirror, she exclaimed to her mother: "Who is that girl with a lovely profile?" Her marriage was ideally happy, though she had no children, and in Ireland she threw herself into good works for the wretched peasantry, including the establishment of a local weaving industry, besides developing her own remarkable artistic gift. It became her custom to have her painting materials set before her every evening after dinner, and she would produce one of her gem-like sketches of children, or delicate drawings of her companions, as other women do their needlework, chatting the while.

On the first of their rare visits together from Ireland to Lord Waterford's Northumberland estate she fell in love with Ford, with the views, the happy villagers, the romantic towers.

The old house keeper showed me all over the house to-day and opened every cupboard to exhibit their hidden treasures. She must be eighty yet she keeps everything in the most perfect order and cleanliness. Some of the old pictures I am delighted with, and although Waterford rather laughs at me about it, I have not a doubt that I have discovered no less than four Sir Joshuas.

One was evidently the well known portrait of Sir Francis Delaval in a red coat landing on the coast of France.

She had been brought up in an atmosphere of romance which is represented vividly enough by her father's title and the incredible house at Highcliffe on the Hampshire coast which he reconstructed with the stones of a French abbey. After her life's tragedy, the hoary



8.—THE ENTRANCE HALL, RUNNING THE LENGTH OF THE ELIZABETHAN HOUSE

towers of Ford overlooking the field of Flodden were balm to her wounded spirit. Soon after she moved here, in 1859, she wrote: "You can still imagine something of the time of Marmion," and conceived the idea of creating a "Marmion gallery" at Ford, with a series of frescoes by the best artists. It never took shape, being soon replaced by more practical schemes for the betterment of the villagers, the reconstruction of the Castle, and the frescoes in the village school described last week. Indeed, by 1865 Augustus Hare found that "the ugly village has moved away from its old site to a hill side half a mile off and picturesquely cottages now line a broad avenue, in the centre of which is a fountain with a tall pillar surmounted by an angel"—a memorial to Lord Waterford designed by Sir Gilbert Scott. One of the old cottages Lady Waterford fitted up for herself and her mother, in which they lived till the Castle was ready to move into at the end of 1865, and which the old lady had the use of till her death two years later. Ford then became linked with another famous house, Highcliffe, which Lady Waterford now inherited. Though she often lived there, Ford remained her home, and she actually mortgaged part of the Highcliffe estate to finance her re-building of farm-houses at Ford and of cottages at Seaton Sluice, a remnant of the Delaval estates.

The most successful part of Lady Waterford's re-building of the Castle is the north front (Fig. 3): the east tower, balancing King James's Tower, and the whole centre is due to Bryce. Previously the façade preserved the line of the mediæval north curtain wall, which still survives some yards behind the new front. The intervening space is now partly occupied by the long narrow dining-room (Fig. 5), the inner wall of which may date from the fourteenth century.

The new east tower projects in front of, and with the south-east wing takes the place of, the original manor house of the Herons, licence to fortify which was given in 1338. It was preserved as a ruined adjunct by Sir Francis Blake, but had disappeared by the time Lord Delaval's re-building was finished. North of the Castle spreads a wide lawn as far as the steep wooded dell, which runs westward to the river. The garden laid out here by Lady Waterford, with the assistance of an Irish landscape gardener named Fraser, has been extended and improved by Lord and Lady Joicey under the advice of Mr. G. C. Taylor, with noble herbaceous borders; to the east a circular shrub garden has been formed, surrounded by pre-existing shrubberies; and to the west, where the ground falls, is now a circular rose garden surrounded by a double yew hedge (Fig. 4). An architectural treatment with strong, simple lines and massed colour was needed here to support the towering Castle walls, which this lay-out succeeds in doing very well. The slope between the upper and lower levels has also been planted with yew, eventually to be clipped into a level slope (Fig. 2), while the ascent below King James's Tower, with its massive topiary, forms one of the most effective pictures of the Castle.

Indoors, a difficult problem was presented. Lady Waterford had left her impress strongly on all the rooms which, filled with her artistic acquisitions and with Ford heirlooms and family pictures, must have been very charming. It is not clear what, if anything, survived from the Delaval and earlier régimes, though an old drawing of the library shows a great Jacobean overmantel above the fireplace. Eye-witnesses testify to a good deal of varnished and dark-painted pitch-pine, with various "Gothic" and "Tudor" fret-work arabesques. We read of the drawing-room "with its ceiling and ornaments copied from that at Winton; the 'Labyrinth Room' is from an old palace at Mantua.". When Ford was sold all the contents were removed, and, without its historic and sentimental associations, the Victorian shell can be imagined as presenting a discouraging background to a new owner, of a new generation. The first Lord Joicey lived at Ford for some thirty years without substantially altering it. But when his son succeeded he decided that, however glamorous they might once have been, the rooms should be entirely redecorated in an unpretentious, comfortable way, introducing modern necessities but so far as possible



9.—"THE SHERIDAN FAMILY"
Sketch in oils by Gainsborough and Gainsborough Dupont

allowing the historic structure to speak for itself. As we saw last week, the vaulted tower room, for example, was stripped to its pristine masonry, and throughout the house the same principle was followed though with a lighter hand in the less ancient rooms, many of which are unaffectedly of our own time. The opportunity was also taken to substitute leaded lights for the plate glass windows, which is a great improvement.

The alterations throughout were in the able hands of Mr. George F. Muntzer. The illustrations largely speak for themselves. The entrance hall (Fig. 8) occupies the depth of the Carr house and runs the length of the front between the wings. Dark blue crash chair-covers take up the dominant colour in

the Flemish tapestries. Parallel, in the space gained by the new north front, is a modest dining-room with white plaster walls and the (Victorian) masonry of the oriel window. Through the door in the photograph lies an ante-room beyond which is the Tower Room in King James's Tower or, to the left, the drawing-room in the south-west wing (Fig. 6). Here, as elsewhere, a pleasing simplicity prevails; the mediaeval fireplaces have had to be inserted. In the corresponding wing is the library (Fig. 7), lined with waxed oak panelling matched by mouse-grey velvet curtains, the furniture covered with a cheerful cretonne of red and greenish flowers on a bronze ground. Among the pictures are landscapes by Nasmyth, Vincent, and Linnell; elsewhere is a charming Millais of Little Miss

Muffet; and in the dining-room hangs an exquisite unfinished sketch by Gainsborough of the Sheridan family—Mrs. Sheridan, was of course the beautiful Elizabeth Linley. The faces were filled in by Gainsborough Dupont.

So little remains within to speak of Ford's six hundred years of continuous habitation that considerable reading is required to elicit what its much altered walls could say. Yet few great houses have so fascinating a history, or one which ranges from such bloody strife to so serene a peace. The whole of Hare's charming book about the Stuart sisters, "Two Noble Lives," can be read in these times with delight. Perhaps it is due to him that the abiding presence at Ford is still that wonderful lady's.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.

TERRIERS OF MANY KINDS

By A. CROXTON SMITH

ONE of the inevitable results of shows, the first of which was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1859, was the segregation of dogs into breeds and varieties. Down to that time the sporting breeds had been kept carefully apart in the main, although the spaniels, with the exception of Clumber, were frequently interbred. It is true that in the old days the smaller were called cockers, but well within the memories of older men it was size that determined their classification rather than type.

From the Middle Ages onwards we had terriers of sorts, the name being given to those that were capable of going to ground after fox or badger. After the advent of shows, it was evident that they admitted of more careful division, and the Kennel Club now recognises twenty breeds or varieties, a number of which have emerged in the course of the present century. Turberville in his *Book of Hunting* (1576) devotes several chapters to them and their uses. He informs his readers: "you must understand that there are sundrie sortes of terriers, whereof we hold opinion that one sorte came out of Flaunders or the low Countries, as Artoys and thereabouts, and they have crooked legges, and are shortheared moste commonly. Another sorte there is which are shagged and streight legged: those with the crooked legges will take earth better than the other, and are better for the Badgerd, because they will lye longer at a vermine: but the others with streight legges do serve for two purposes, for they will Hunte above the ground

as well as other hounds, and enter the earthe with more furie than the others, but they will not abide so long, bycause they are too eareg in fight."

Modern commentators have criticised Turberville for rendering the word "basset" as "terrier" in his translation from the French original upon which his book was based. That may be so, though we can scarcely believe that basset then had the same meaning as now. The little hounds that we know as bassets are much too big to go to ground, and they have not the disposition to do the work that is expected of terriers. Some German scientists have classed bassets among the seven principal types of dogs, including among them dachshunds and the short-legged terriers. My French dictionary, published a good many years ago, renders the French word "basset" as "terrier."



TYPICAL BEDLINGTON HEADS
Ch. Robin of Simonside and Winaster of Simonside

Whatever Turberville's terriers may have been, they were small enough to go to ground, and any reader who is sufficiently curious to turn up his chapters on the badger and fox will be well rewarded for his pains. One passage always amuses me. Critics are fond of writing about the degeneracy of the race and pointing out, by way of contrast, what stout fellows the Elizabethans were. No doubt they were, yet we infer from our author that they were not above taking care of themselves. "A Lord or Gentleman cannot take too great heed of the colde and moysture of the earthe, for he may thereby take sundrie diseases and infirmities."

So that these ills might be avoided, lords and gentlemen who set out to dig fox or badger were advised to have half a dozen mats to lie upon when they harkened to the terriers. "Some use to carrie a windbed whiche is made of leather strongly sowed on all the four sides, and having a Pype at one of the corners to blowe it as you woulde blowe a Baggepype," but that was too great a curiosity for Turberville's liking.

If this old sportsman could look down upon the present mortal scene in all probability he would think some of our terriers, too, were a great curiosity. What would he say of the Bedlingtons that are illustrated in these pages to-day? They did not appear under their present name until about 1825. They had their forerunners, however, in the guise of Rodberry, Rothbury, or Coquetdale terriers, and we may take it that they sprang from the non-descript dogs that wandered about the Border country with their gipsy masters, whose services were in demand for killing rats and other vermin.

The manner in which those two reprobates William and James Allan crop up in their early history suggests that they came originally from the same stock as the Dandie Dinmonts. Whether any cross was introduced to give them the longer legs and more racy appearance, or



T. Fall MISS R. CARR AND MISS STATHAM POSE A GROUP OF SIMONSIDE BEDLINGTONS Copyright



CH. MINIMUM OF SIMONSEIDE
Sold to U.S.A. he became an International Champion



CH. DECKHAM O'PRECIOUS
One of the most popular show dogs of his day and a famous sire

they merely owe these features to selective breeding, I am unable to say. Whatever may have been the case, they have changed a good deal in the last fifty or sixty years, as may be seen by reference to photographs of bygone celebrities. All writers seem to have been in agreement about praising the pluck and usefulness of the Bedlington. Thus, in *British Dogs* we read: "The Bedlington I look upon as a farmer's friend and country gentleman's companion. No breed of terrier can compare with him for stamina, courage, fire and resolution." The character of "quarrelsome" given to him by "Stonehenge" would not apply now, but the pluck remains.

The Misses M. and R. Carr, whose Simonside kennels at Wokingham have for some years been prominent in the show-ring, have an hereditary interest in the dogs as their old home was at Long Framlington, Northumberland, a village mentioned in the history of the breed. One of these ladies gives them the best of testimonials, writing of their gentleness with people, especially children. Their coats, too, are tight, never coming out to make chairs and carpets untidy. In spite



TWO PUPPIES IN THE ROUGH
It needs an expert to guess how they will mature

of their qualities as companions, Miss Carr reminds us that they are sporting dogs, and it is sad to see them fattened on sweets and countless tit-bits, and deprived of free exercise. Show dogs, of course, are trimmed, but they are quite presentable in their natural coats when groomed daily with a steel comb, which should be carried through the undercoat so that mats do not form. The body hair should be combed from the tail towards the head, and the legs from the feet upwards. The topknot should be fluffed up from the sides to the middle.

Colour is a matter of some importance, the ideal being a steely blue or a brown that reminds one of boiled liver. It should be remembered also that the feet should be fairly long and not round like those of the fox terrier. It would be entering into unnecessary technicalities to describe the merits of the famous Bedlingtons that the Misses Carr have exhibited in the last few years. They have won numerous prizes at all the leading shows, and on the return of peace it is to be hoped that they will again be as successful as in the past.



T. Fall
NORAVINA OF SIMONSEIDE (daughter), **CH. ROBIN OF SIMONSEIDE** (father) AND **ROCKET OF SIMONSEIDE** (son). The younger dogs are great grandchildren of Ch. Sparkeforde Jackanapes whose pedigree traces back to 1782



Copyright
CH. MINIMUM OF SIMONSEIDE (3 years old) AND
CH. DECKHAM O'PRECIOUS (9 years old)
The old dog looks as young as ever

SOME GREAT FINALS

SOME little while ago I wrote here about the greatest Open Championships I had watched and said that perhaps I would some day, when in a reminiscent mood, return to the subject. The weather without and the fire within alike encourage reminiscence, and so this time I will turn to the Amateur Championship and some of its greatest finals.

I lay it down to begin with that there must be about them not merely good golf and a hard finish, but if possible an element of agony and likewise hostility. I do not mean that the players have got to hate one another, but their respective partisans have for the time being to do something very like it. I may give an example of one of the best finals I ever saw which yet lacked these qualities, that of 1909 at Muirfield, in which Mr. Robert Maxwell beat Major C. K. Hutchison by one hole. Incidentally, he was not a major then, and the sporting Press used to goad him to fury by calling him "the young lieutenant." The golf was admirably accurate and played at a delightful pace: the issue hung in the balance till the last moment, and indeed Mr. Maxwell was one down with two to play. But here were two players from the same country, from the same school where they were as near as might be contemporaries, from the same clubs and courses, who constantly played together. It was altogether too friendly a match to attain the absolute of poignancy. Mr. Vincent Crummles would have complained bitterly that it was not possible to work up a legitimate interest among the audience. It was a delightful game to watch, but not a battle.

On the other hand, when England and Scotland meet, especially on Scottish soil, it is a battle, and the greatest of all for me must always be Mr. John Ball and Mr. F. G. Tait at Prestwick in 1899. That had every requisite. The two men were the acknowledged leaders of their respective countries. One of them had what at one time appeared a winning lead, only to be pulled down and down, for Mr. Tait had been five up at the fourteenth in the first round. The spectators were worked up to a pitch of patriotic frenzy, and not only the Scots, for some of the Hoylake men could not face the thirty-seventh and retired to the club-house where, presumably, they buried their heads in the sofa cushions, like Mr. Winkle, and groaned dismally. Finally, that thirty-seventh was won in a blaze of glory by Mr. Ball with a three. The match has been described too often, especially the tremendous thirty-fifth hole, the Alps, where Mr. Tait played his water shot. There is one hole, however, prosaic by comparison, which has always seemed to me infinitely crucial, and it has rather escaped notice. Mr. Ball had been three down at lunch, and he had resolutely hunted his man till he had squared the match. Then at the eleventh, the homeward Himalayas, he had, I think, missed a putt; at any rate, he lost the hole and Mr. Tait was one up. That was his moment, when his enemy's counter-attack had for the moment spent itself and he had his nose in front again. Before the crowd had realised what had happened, he had played his next tee shot, to the Wall hole, and hit his ball, with the most immense hook, right over their heads, over the Pow Burn and out of bounds.

That unspeakable agony of the holes falling away was a feature of two finals that, to my sorrow, I did not see. In 1901, at St. Andrews, Mr. Low, by magnificent putting, pulled Mr. Hilton back from five up to all square with two to go, and then his opponent came away with two wonderful wooden club shots, one right up to the seventeenth green and one, almost dead, at the eighteenth. In the very next year Mr. Charles Hutchings was eight up at lunch on Mr. Sidney Fry, and he won by one single hole, the chair in which he was to be carried victoriously home having made the complete circuit of the links. At St. Andrews there was plenty of international feeling, and if it was lacking in the next year there was plenty of Hoylake feeling, and Hoylake is nothing if it is not patriotic and can take things hard. Mr. Hutchings himself did not recover for over a year. I am almost glad I did not see that last match; I think

*A Golf Commentary by
BERNARD DARWIN*

I might not have recovered either from seeing those seven holes so dreadfully vanishing. However, I did see another match between two Englishmen in which there was feeling enough and to spare, that in 1912 between Mr. Ball and Abe Mitchell. Mr. Ball won at the thirty-eighth hole, and there is a Hoylake legend attached to that victory. Mr. Harold Janion did not, except at times of almost overwhelming emotion, stir very far from his base, and Mr. Ball is alleged to have said to him, in a moment of inspired prophecy before the match started: "You had to come to the thirty-seventh with me at Prestwick. Well, you'll have to come to the thirty-eighth today." The feeling in that match was due to a body of persons who would to-day as I suspect be called "reds." They came from Bideford, knowing and caring nothing about golf, but apparently regarding Abe as the representative of a down-trodden proletariat, and behaving with palpable venom accordingly. I always think they went far to lose him the match. It is impossible to conceive of anybody to whom such demonstrations would be more distasteful than Abe, and as for Mr. Ball, so far as they had any effect on him, they only made him grit his teeth the harder. Mr. Ball is said to have made another prophecy over that match, when he was three down at lunch. He said that if he could halve the first three holes—they were long, and made valuable his opponent's big hitting—he thought he could make a match of it. He went one better, for he got back one of them.

In more modern times three matches, all with an international flavour and all ending on the last green or beyond it, seem to stand out; Mr. Tolley and Mr. Gardner at Muirfield in 1920, Mr. Lawson Little and Dr. Tweddell at St. Anne's in 1935, and Mr. Hector Thomson and Mr. Ferrier at St. Andrews in 1936. All

three had their agonies of slightly different quality in each case. At Muirfield Mr. Tolley was comfortably set for victory, going to the fifteenth hole (it was the old course, not the new) and then, hardening his heart just a little too boldly, his opponent being short, he went over the green, was bunkered, and lost a hole of which he seemed to have rather the better than otherwise. He had been—I do hope I am right—three up at the time, but now came a landslide; the sixteenth and the eighteenth went the same way, and what was worse, there was Mr. Gardner's ball on the thirteenth green. It is pleasant to look back on now, for what a reviving sight it was a moment later to see Mr. Tolley on the green and well "inside" his enemy! With what a superb gesture, too, did he walk straight up to his putt and bang it in for a two! Yes, I am glad now that he was bunkered at the fifteenth and that it all fell out as it did, but at the time it seemed to take years off one's life. The match at St. Anne's produced perhaps the greatest revulsion of cheerfulness following hopelessness that I can recall, for when Mr. Lawson Little won the first three holes in a row and Dr. Tweddell appeared all abroad, the most frightful and cataclysmic visions swam before our eyes. However, we had too little faith, for our man recovered heroically. It was a wonderful match.

So was that at St. Andrews in 1936, and as to that I am wedded to one opinion, though, to be sure, it involves another "if." Mr. Ferrier was playing like the devil unchained, and after thirteen holes in the morning round he was three up. Then, quite gratuitously, he cut his drive over the wall and out of bounds at the long hole and gave his opponent space to breathe. If he had not—well, at any rate, it was an enormously important and dramatic stroke. And as for drama, the last hole of all was unbeatable—Mr. Thomson one up, Mr. Ferrier on the green in two but some way from the hole, and then came the Scot's second, laid stock, stone dead, so that there was no possible putting to be done on either side. A putt must be very dead indeed before it is given on such an occasion, and Mr. Ferrier gave it with the best grace in the world.

POUND FISH IN FROSTY WEATHER

MY little garden fishpond-lilypool has often been completely frozen over, but it was not until last winter's exceptionally cold spell that I lost one single fish through ice formation.

It was my own fault. Owing to pressure of work I omitted to take any precautions. I neither boarded nor used sacking. I hadn't a deep end. For some days I even omitted to cut one or two aerating holes.

As well as for goldfish, I use my pond as a storehouse for live bait for fishing. I should have thought that these coarse fish—roach, dace, rudd, carp, bleak, gudgeon, minnows, and an occasional small chub—would have been tougher than the goldfish, but this cold spell killed off every single live bait I had, whereas the only casualty among my goldfish was one fish which happened to get trapped at the side during a partial thaw and later became frozen in.

Some fish—carp, tench, eels—hibernate in the mud at the bottom, but notwithstanding this, last season's cold snap killed off hundreds of carp in one pond alone. Yet fish vary greatly in their resistance to cold. J. R. Norman tells us that the little black-fish of Alaska and Siberia, a relative of the pike, remains frozen in solid ice for weeks, and thaws out again as spring approaches. One of these frozen fish was once swallowed by a dog, thawed out in its stomach, and was vomited up alive! On the other hand, the scabbard fish is very sensitive to cold. In New Zealand, says Mr. Norman, these fish, known as "frost fish," swim ashore in thousands on cold nights, apparently in a state of temporary insanity.

In very cold weather fish become torpid. Their oxygen requirements are much reduced, and they should be given no food at all.

Dr. E. B. Worthington, of the Fresh-water Biological Association, recently published an informative paper on this subject, in which he

pointed out that fish die not only from lack of oxygen, but also from the concentration of certain products of decay. When the surface of the water is sealed for long periods no gaseous exchange can take place between water and air. Very deep waters should be safe, but shallower waters, unrefreshed by a good stream, might suffer. The point is that if the ice is transparent, and light can get through to water-plants below, the oxygenating activity of these will keep the water satisfactory. If, however, there is an opaque over-layer of snow or slush, this activity is prevented and conditions become bad. Jointly with a reduction of oxygen, the amount of ammonia and the carbon dioxide tension rise. Iron, which in well oxygenated water is usually rendered harmless by precipitation, also increases.

In frosty weather, then, the first thing to try to do is to prevent the pond from freezing over. The spreading of boarding or sacking across one end—the deep end if there is one—will often prove sufficient. If, however, the pond does freeze over, a hole or holes should be cut in the ice each day. The ice should not simply be smashed with, say, a sledge-hammer. If the pond is a small one this may not only crack the cement sides, but the concussion may injure or even kill the fish. The safest way is to use a saw. All snow or slush, too, should be repeatedly removed. Light thus being let in, the under-water plant life can carry on its good oxygenating work.

Frozen-in fish should not be roughly broken out, but slowly thawed out. Fish do not take kindly to rapid changes of temperature. Goldfish should never be suddenly introduced into cold water, even straight from the tap. When the pond is being emptied and refilled a suitable receptacle should first be filled with pond water, and the fish kept in it for a few hours to enable the fresh water to warm up.

NORMAN L. WEATHERALL.

PARISH AND LANDSCAPE

A Review by CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY



PART OF THE PANORAMA OF SIDMOUTH, 1815, BY HUBERT CORNISH

(From "The Scenery of Sidmouth.")

AFEW weeks ago Mr. A. E. Clarke described in these pages how the boys of Ilford Central School, evacuated to the Surrey village of Cranleigh, had set themselves, under his guidance, to explore the new world in which they found themselves. In the process, the scenery, history, and occupations of that corner of England became vivid realities for those boys, for, in Mr. Clarke's words, they had discovered that "the spirit of the past lives in the present." They have found the talisman that can make stones and trees speak: the consciousness of the continuity of past and present.

That is a pleasant but also a very valuable endowment, for it is this sense of historic cause with contemporary, and future, effect that is the very stuff of civilisation. The almost complete lack of it in so many Britons to-day is an appalling indictment of modern education, and a direct cause of the hideousness and soullessness of much of England since the industrial revolution. What the boys did at Cranleigh, on the initiative of the 1940 Council's policy for encouraging the study of environment, shows one way in which this future deficiency may be corrected. It does more. It emphasises the old principle that knowledge of the general is only to be attained through the particular; that a basis for civilised communal life is best reached through seeing how it works on a small scale, in detail, through inherited or acquired understanding of local conditions.

Two recently published books of "parochial" studies* acquire greater significance in this context than might attach to them singly. Dr. Vaughan Cornish, who has devoted a long life to the search for "general principles for the aesthetics of scenery," claims as much in the first words of his Preface to his detailed study of a short stretch of coastal scenery:

The movement for the preservation of Rural England depends largely for its success upon the wider dissemination of the knowledge and appreciation of scenery.

The late R. Pearse Chope, a local antiquary of the old school, made no wider claims for his *Book of Hartland* than the intrinsic interest of the history of this large, remote, and most isolated Devon parish. Yet, if the boys of another school are evacuated to Hartland they would find in Mr. Chope's book direction-posts and material for an even more exciting reconstruction than that enacted at Cranleigh. The two books are, in fact, of types complementary to each other, recalling the widespread attention that was given in the eighteenth century to precisely these two aspects of the countryside, its scenery and its history. It can be no coincidence that the creation at that time of the rural England we know to-day, with its landscape beauty and architectural harmony, coincided with the publication not only of the great county

histories but of hundreds of parochial studies—though few of the latter attained the level of Gilbert White's *Natural History of Selborne*.

In their appreciation and shaping of landscape the Georgians had a great advantage over us to-day in their humane aesthetic standards founded on classical art and the standard of "picturesque" landscape familiarised by the popular painters of the period. One of our difficulties is that we are in a state of aesthetic as well as intellectual transition, without the handy working equation between "art and nature" which was provided in the theory of the picturesque by the end of the eighteenth century. Dr. Cornish's assumption that there do exist "general principles for the aesthetics of scenery" links his work directly with that of the Georgian tourists, but with an important difference. He is a scientist writing for a scientific age. The science of psychology acknowledges the importance of environment, and Dr. Cornish implies that a psychologist could analyse the causes of feelings aroused by landscape just as the picturesque enquirers used to do, but on a basis of scientific fact in place of their analogies to art and literature. This is not specifically or exclusively his theme, and there is a good deal of rather vague, semi-scientific, semi-romantic discussion of the views about Sidmouth. But in the following passage, one of several that could be quoted, I think that he comes near to defining the factor, whatever it is, common to this age's appreciation of mountainous country, to much of its painting and sculpture, and to its predominantly scientific interests. He is contrasting the greater effect upon his imagination, when a child, of Salcombe Hill over the landscape of Suffolk:

In Suffolk the landscape was a mere surface, here the cliff front showed the solid geometry of the world. This impression of childhood is confirmed by experience. Cliff scenery has the same superiority over inland scenery as sculpture in the round compared with a bas-relief. It is also pre-eminent in its contribution to the scientific understanding of the origin and nature of the ground we tread.

Unfortunately, this and many other suggestive analyses are not carried quite far enough to define the modern common element that the Georgians found in a rather naive romanticism. Yet it is present in the painting of, say, Cézanne; in the urge for winter sports and rambling, even for flight and speed; and in the instinctive bias of the young towards science and mechanism. Perhaps we have no word for the common factor in admired scenery and the age's intellectual preoccupation, but must apply "structural," or invent "mechanesque," as the Georgians applied, or invented, the term "picturesque" for what moved them.

The historical aspects of Sidmouth are of secondary importance, though Dr. Cornish unfolds the gentle associations of the neighbourhood and describes the growth of Sidmouth early in the last century. For this he is able to draw upon an unique source: an enchanting panoramic view drawn by his great-great-uncle Hubert Cornish in 1815, which is reproduced complete. Drawn looking inland from the beach, it includes Peak Hill and Torbay on the

left to Salcombe Hill and Abbotsbury on the right, a total of 240 degrees, with the neat terraces and villas that were then replacing the earlier thatched cottages.

Hartland is a complete contrast. That quadrilateral of plateau and hidden combes between Clovelly and Bude, which culminates in Hartland Point (Ptolemy's Hercules Promontory), is the remotest corner of England from a railway: the Point is sixteen miles from Bideford, nearly twenty from Bude. The huge parish is still very much a relic of pre-railway England, and, enclosed on all sides by natural barriers, has always been self-contained. The narrow winding lanes radiate from the "town" of Hartland, more properly Harton, whose great Perpendicular church tower dominates this secluded realm as its ancient abbey of St. Nectan does its annals. The region reminds one of the remote fastnesses of St. David's, across the Severn Sea. The story of St. Nectan, the Welsh missionary of the parish, is another link with Wales. The late R. Pearse Chope, who devoted so much of his life to this diligent account of his native parish, found out a great deal about St. Nectan. But it was only in the last days of his life that he learnt of the discovery by Canon G. H. Doble of the missing Life of the saint—a manuscript that William of Worcester saw and quoted from in the fifteenth century but which subsequently disappeared. Its curious text is printed complete in an appendix, and it is no disparagement of Mr. Chope's work to say that it is the most fascinating part of the book. St. Nectan, it appears, came from Brecon, contemporary with St. Augustin to Kent, and seems to have had most of the Cornish saints as his brothers and sisters. In some ways yet more interesting than his hermit life is the account, in the same MS., of the discovery of his remains at Hartland in the twelfth century by a monk of the abbey founded by King Harold's mother. The Brother had the utmost difficulty in getting the abbey authorities to pay any attention to his startling dreams, and, when excavations had revealed nothing and were given up in disgust, he continued them unofficially himself—with almost instant success. As a result of the discovery Hartland became one of the principal abbeys of the West Country. Mr. Chope throws interesting light on the agricultural workings of the monastic community, and on the efforts of the local gentry to prevent the dissolution of this religious centre of their countryside. In subsequent centuries, though the abbey became a great country house and Mr. Chope has collected a quantity of curious local records and lore, Hartland lacked the importance that it enjoyed in the days of the monks. That is its attraction to-day, and there are still the wild cliffs and sheltered combes; the coastal waterfalls, no fewer than seven, down which the streams of the plateau fall to their mouths. There is still the sensation of remoteness from the world befitting a "holy land," but not until one has read *The Book of Hartland* is it clear to what extent the spirit of the past lives in the present in this happy parish.

**The Scenery of Sidmouth, its Natural Beauty and Historic Interest*, by Vaughan Cornish. (Cambridge University Press, 7s. 6d.)
The *Book of Hartland*, by R. Pearse Chope. (Torquay: The Devonshire Press, 6s. 6d.)

CORRESPONDENCE

FURTHER LETTERS FROM BRITISH OFFICERS—PRISONERS OF WAR IN GERMANY

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE." SIR,—I have received further letters from my husband, Captain Scott-Martin. On October 5 he says : "Have received five letters from you, so I really feel in touch again and am so glad you have some of mine. I do a lot of model-making." October 15 : "Have had ten letters from you now. Did I tell you I was studying Design Economics, Law and Motors? We have one lecture and one concert per week and produce one magazine per month. There is a small library too, and with models I keep busy. I have so much to tell you later but you know how letters are rationed. I thirst for all possible news. On entertainments I work with Forrester-Fielding." October 22 : "Your parcel arrived safely yesterday and contains just what I need—it is lovely to wear pyjamas and feel socks again. I think I had better wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year now. I expect we shall manage a bit of a celebration and a pantomime is in preparation. Weather here still good but cold, we have radiators though." November 7 : "I am very well and every moment of my time is occupied. I am rehearsing two plays now and getting ready a new issue of the newspaper. Model-making goes strong and I have a lot of pupils. The Camp is good and the staff excellent." November 17 : "Letters are a bit scarce this week and we hear the sad news that a ship with mails and parcels has gone on the rocks. The week has been busy with the newspaper, classes, a lecture, a concert and model-making. I have made you two boxes. We had the usual service this morning by Padre MacLean who is a wonderful chap and is in my room. He is a great comfort in times like these."

I am sending you a photograph of the Entertainments and Newspaper Committee at Oflag IXA which I have received from my husband.—I. M. SCOTT-MARTIN, St. Albans, Herts.

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In COUNTRY LIFE, October 5, appears a group photograph of officers at Oflag IXA, Germany. I have been able to identify my nephew, Lieutenant W. W. Deane, R.A.M.C., Royal West Kents, as eighth from the left, top row—partly framed by window.—CHARLOTTE S. L. ALLPORT, Elinbank, Beamber Road, Steyning, Sussex.

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—You will doubtless be getting letters identifying the men shown in the group of officers at Oflag IXA. The man standing at the front of the group, fourth from the spectator's left of all those shown, fair haired, smoking a pipe, dressed in dark jersey and trousers with hands in pockets is my son, Lieutenant R. A. Ramsay, R.N., who was rescued from H.M.S. *Glowworm* when that ship was sunk in action on April 8, 1940, off Narvik.—R. N. RAMSAY, Garth House, Oakfields, Knebworth, Herts.

THE ONION SHORTAGE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In order to prevent a recurrence of the present shortage of onions, amateur gardeners and allotment-holders should, as far as possible, grow sufficient in 1941 to supply the needs of their households. In this connection the Royal Horticultural Society's Fruit and Vegetable Committee desires to draw attention to the advantages of growing



AT OFLAG IXA, SEPT., 1940; ENTERTAINMENTS AND NEWSPAPER COMMITTEE

onions by sowing seed under glass in January or February and transplanting the seedlings to the open ground in April. It is much easier to produce a good crop by this means than by the usual method of sowing in the open ground in the spring. The transplanted glass-sown seedlings are not subject to the attack of the onion-fly maggot which, especially on the lighter soils, frequently destroys a large proportion of the plants raised from sowings made out of doors in the spring. Moreover, as the greatly increased acreage of onions in 1941 will make heavy demands on the supply of seed, and some normal sources are no longer open to us, the raising of plants under glass will help by making the most economical use of the available seed.

As many amateur gardeners and allotment-holders have no glass, in order to adopt the plan they will need to purchase plants in April. Meanwhile they should prepare the ground for their reception by deeply working and manuring the soil sufficiently early to allow it to settle before transplanting time. They should also order plants in good time, for, although it is hoped that nurserymen throughout the country will raise very large numbers of onion plants for sale, the demand is likely to exceed the supply and those who do not order plants may find the stocks exhausted. As a guide to the number of plants to order, I may add that glass-sown onions may be planted four to six inches apart in the row, with twelve to fifteen inches between the rows.—F. R. DURHAM, Secretary, R.H.S.

DETMAR BLOW AND KING'S

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I think it is to be regretted that Curius Crowe should have considered it necessary to compare Robert Adam's black and white drawing throughout the country will raise very large numbers of onion plants for sale, the demand is likely to exceed the supply and those who do not order plants may find the stocks exhausted. As a guide to the number of plants to order, I may add that glass-sown onions may be planted four to six inches apart in the row, with twelve to fifteen inches between the rows.—F. R. DURHAM, Secretary, R.H.S.

The two media are entirely different. There is a reproduction of Adam's proposals for this altar in Mr. Bolton's great book on the work of the Adam brothers, I think, though unfortunately I have not got it with me. Anyone who has read this book cannot doubt Adam's genius as a draughtsman.

Comparisons, they say, are odious, and I do not propose to enter into them myself, but as an architect, interior decorator and designer of furniture and metal-work, Adam must rank as a very doughty opponent to anyone compared with him.

I have not seen Mr. Detmar Blow's water-colour, but am perfectly willing to believe all Curius Crowe claims it to be, but there are many people who prefer a plain black and white drawing of any work they propose doing to a coloured one. In a black and white drawing detail is easier to follow than in a coloured one; the former can quite easily be such a pleasing picture in itself that much may be overlooked.

I am afraid Curius Crowe has mixed up two arts and is so pleased with his picture that he has allowed himself to be carried away by his enthusiasm.—G. CARLETON COWPER, Major.

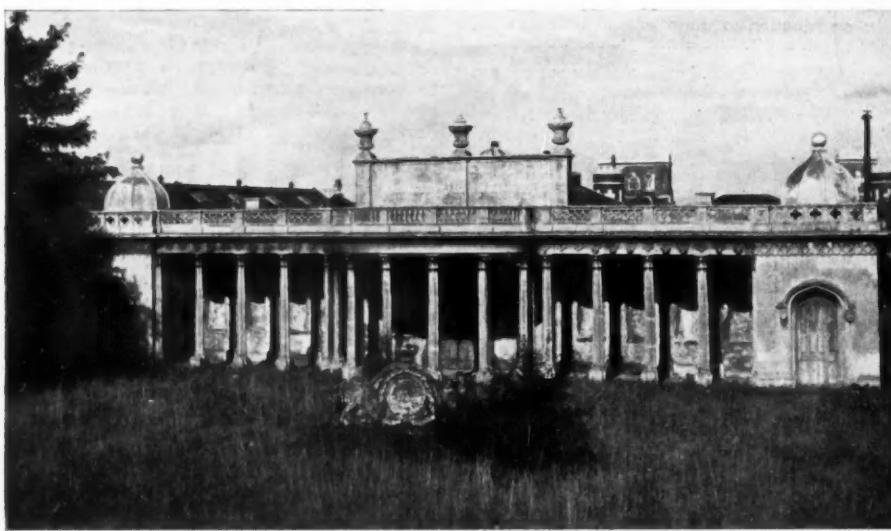
[Curius Crowe, to whom this letter has been submitted, replies : "Thank you for letting me see Major Carleton Cowper's letter. I cannot see that I mixed up two arts, or said more than that Adam's design was available for comparison. The latter (which, incidentally, is not illustrated in Bolton's book) was 'unsuccessful' in the sense that it was not adopted. I agree that an architect's black and white drawing is preferable to a 'perspective' for the appreciation of detail. But in this case the realised work is at hand for first-hand study. The merit of Detmar Blow's painting, besides its intrinsic beauty, is that it gave beforehand an accurate forecast of the effect of the work in relation to the colour and atmosphere of the chapel—which is of no less importance than the detail of design, and which, of course, Adam, rightly or wrongly, did not attempt."—ED.]

A RELIC OF THE ROMANTIC REVIVAL

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—This photograph may be of interest as the Georgian Group of the S.P.A.B. is pleading for the preservation of the Roman bathroom of Arno's Castle, Brislington, Bristol, on the main Bath road.

It is part of an elaborate scheme of pioneer work in the romantic revival conceived by William Reeve, a Bristol merchant venturer, in about 1765. A Gothic archway, incorporating mediæval stonework brought in 1766 from old Bristol, leads to a sunk grass courtyard. Opposite this is the stone façade of the bathroom with a rare and elaborate example of a colonnade in the Batty Langley manner. The bath behind is rectangular and tiled and is enclosed in a well proportioned room whose cornice and coved ceiling are remarkable for beautiful plasterwork, even in Bath and Bristol. The cornice has plaster pendants of portrait heads, and the ceiling depicts romantic scenery executed in relief and surrounded by wreaths. The building is at present disused, though the sham castle at the back, part of the same scheme, is well preserved by the Bristol Tramways Company as a social club.—F. R. W.



THE ROMAN BATHROOM AT ARNO'S CASTLE, BRISLINGTON, Near BRISTOL



A CORNISH BENCH-END

IN TALLAND CHURCH

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—I came across this delightful bench-end in Talland Church, Cornwall. The carving of the two faces is a remarkable piece of craftsmanship, as the profiles are most life-like; the long pointed beard of the figure on the left is interesting. The carver has depicted the quaint hats, like lampshades, worn at the period when his work was carried out; it will be noted that the woman's ears are covered by the strange headgear.—A. M.

"WANTED—A NAME!"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—“Martina” suggests itself to me on looking at the photograph of the charming young otter in quest of a name. She could be called Martina on Sundays and Tina on weekdays! Long may she live!—B. KETCHLEY, Wilts.

CAT AND TORTOISE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—I am sending a snapshot taken recently in our small garden of two pets who, though so unlike each other, are very good friends. The cat, named Twinkle Toes by a child because he has four white paws, is a creature of moods and, when he feels inclined, will play about with Jumbo, the tortoise. I caught him in this position one morning, and sometimes he will lie on the ground with a fore paw each side of Jumbo. At other times he pushes him about and has succeeded in turning him upside down. All these games are accepted calmly by the tortoise and with a certain amount of aloofness.

Jumbo has a home of his own—a flat wooden box with an open end and a bed of dried ferns. Twinkle Toes likes to occupy this and is frequently allowed to do so. Sometimes they share it, but necessarily at close quarters. On one occasion, however, Jumbo had other ideas, so he pushed himself into the box at the side of the cat and, getting at the back, forcibly ejected him. Jumbo is a friendly creature, intelligent and very persevering.—ELIZABETH NORTHMORE, Plymouth.



THE 200 YEARS OLD FIRE EXTINGUISHERS OF ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL, BRISTOL

ANCIENT FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—As a footnote to your excellent articles on the city of Bristol, and the announcement by the Ministry of Information that St. Peter's Hospital has been struck by enemy action, I enclose a picture of their unique fire extinguishers that were preserved in the old City Mint, as the Elizabethan building was known. They were kept filled with acid, and dated back some two hundred years, being hung on the panelled walls as a curiosity.—DOROTHY KNOWLE, Bristol.



TWINKLE TOES EMBRACING JUMBO

TWO COUNTRY LEGENDS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Recent letters in COUNTRY LIFE have reminded me of two legends of the countryside. The first, describing a farmhouse with twelve chimneys, known as the Twelve Apostles, reminds me of

another farm near Mugginton, Derbyshire, with the name Halter Devil Chapel, the true history of which is very curious. The chapel, one of the smallest of the Established Church, is actually built on to the farmhouse.

The story goes that the farmer, Francis Brown, a man very fond of drink, vowed one stormy night, despite his wife's protests, to ride to Derby, seven miles distant, even if he had to halter the Devil. Securing his mount from the paddock, he tried to put the halter over its head, only to find it had horns! At that moment he was knocked unconscious, and upon recovering, so sure was he it was the Devil he had grasped, he became a sobered man and built the chapel adjoining his house. A stone, now removed, in the chapel gable read:

Francis Brown in his old age,
Did build him here an hermitage,
Who being old and full of evil,
Once on a time haltered the Devil."

1723.

The most sensible explanation is that he tried to halter a cow, which, resenting the application of the bit, kicked its owner senseless.

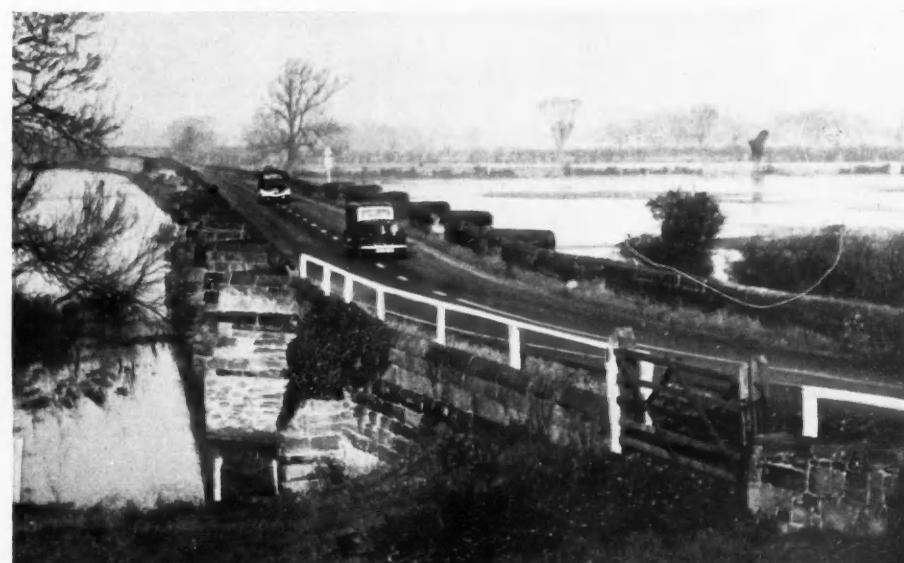
In contrast to that of the Beggars' Bridge at Glaistead, North Riding, of which you published a photograph recently, the story of the Swarkeston Bridge in Derbyshire is of two tragic romances. It was built at the expense of two sisters who, while waiting for their lovers, saw them drowned in the floods which even to-day swell the Trent to a mile wide. Excluding the span over the river, the bridge consists of a raised causeway with numerous arches, which crosses the valley for three-quarters of a mile.

Bonny Prince Charlie established a bridge-head here in 1745, and it is famous as being the most southerly point reached by the invaders, for they retreated to their fate on Culloden Moor.

My photograph shows the south approach, parts of which are twelfth century, and the flooded meadows.—F. RODGERS, Derby.



HALTER DEVIL CHAPEL NEAR MUGGINTON



SWARKESTON BRIDGE, BUILT BY TWO SISTERS WHOSE LOVERS WERE DROWNED IN THE FLOODS

Regimental Badges—V.**SOME REGIMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH ROYALTY**

By LT.-COL. W. L. JULYAN

IN one way and another several regiments, whose traditions are now inherited by the Home Guard, bear the name of some member of the Royal Family. Some of these have been dealt with in previous articles. It is often the case that the personage after whom the unit is named has at some time been the Colonel-in-Chief, or has had some other special connection with it, and this kind of association is much valued.

**THE WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT
(THE PRINCE OF WALES'S OWN).
REGIMENTAL No. 14**

This regiment was raised in 1685 by Sir G. Hales under command from James II, at the time of the Monmouth Rebellion, and was at first associated with Canterbury. They became the 14th Foot, served for a time in Scotland, and then went to Flanders in 1693. From that time the whole history of the regiment is one of gallant service on practically every front where the British Army has been called upon to serve. At Dunblane in 1715 they fought as Jasper Clayton's Foot. When their Colonel, Jasper Clayton, became Lieutenant-Governor of Gibraltar the regiment joined him there in 1727, and took their share in activities. In 1782 they became the 14th (Bedfordshire) Regiment, and from then on changes of name became frequent. In 1809 they were the Buckinghamsires, and in 1881 their connection with Yorkshire began. They had been made the Prince of Wales's Own in 1876, and King Edward VII kept up the connection by becoming Colonel. They were at Culloden, and two of their officers serving on the staff fell at Bunker's Hill. The unit also fought in a Dunkirk battle of far-off days.

George III granted them the White Horse of Hanover for service in Scotland, and the Royal Tiger followed for service in India. A second battalion distinguished themselves at Corunna. The old second and third battalions were disbanded after Waterloo, and the present second dates from 1858.

Battle honours start with "Namur 1695" and include "Java," "Waterloo," and "South Africa 1899-1902." The thirty-one battalions serving during the Great War added many more, including "Armentieres 1914," "Ypres 1917-'18," "Villers Bretonneux," and "Piave," while the eighth battalion gained the distinction of the award of the French Croix de Guerre. On certain parades the distinctive ribbon is worn.

The cap badge is the Hanover White Horse with the words "West Yorkshire" in a scroll under.

**THE GREEN HOWARDS
(ALEXANDRA, PRINCESS OF
WALES'S OWN YORKSHIRE
REGIMENT).
REGIMENTAL No. 19**

This regiment had a curious beginning in being raised from the pikemen assembled in Devon to assist William of Orange in 1688. In four years they were serving in Flanders. They were at first called Luttrell's Foot, but soon became the 19th Foot. In 1702 they were fighting in Cadiz, and after a spell in the West Indies were again in Flanders in 1745, where they fought well at Fontenoy. In 1761 Private Samuel Johnson performed a deed of rescue that in later times would have earned the V.C. In 1796 they were in Ceylon, and three years later took part in the battle of Seringapatam. At Redan Lieutenant Massey rendered signal service and displayed great gallantry, and after recovering from serious wounds returned to his studies at Dublin University on the conclusion of peace. Another man who

would assuredly have gained the V.C. or G.C. for a similar act now was Private John Lyon, who picked up a live shell and took it away from the trench. Private Samuel Evans ran him very close in bravery by voluntarily going to the aid of a party of men repairing a parapet under devastating fire, and completing the work.

After the Indian Mutiny the 19th did much towards the consolidation of our Indian Empire by suppressing tribal revolts. The title Princess of Wales's Own came in 1875, to have "Alexandra" and "Yorkshire Regiment" added in 1901. In 1919 the present title was approved and is a compliment to Colonel Howard, a former commander, who introduced the distinctive green facings.

Curiously enough, the battle honours recorded on the Colour are not many, though the record is notable. Among them are "Malplaquet," "Sebastopol," "Relief of Kimberley," and the twenty-four battalions of the Great War added among others "Loos," "Messines 1917, '18," "Sambre," "Vittorio Veneto," and "Suvla."

The cap badge in silver is the cypher of H.M. the late Queen Alexandra as Princess of Wales combined with the Dannebrog, and surmounted by the coronet of the Princess. On the centre of the cross is "1875" and "Alexandra."

**THE PRINCE OF WALES'S VOLUNTEERS
(SOUTH LANCASHIRE). REGIMENTAL
No. 40**

The title is perhaps a little misleading, as the word Volunteer, like Territorial, is used, in Army phraseology, in two distinct senses, and the unit has nothing to do with the old citizen Volunteer battalions which preceded the Territorial Army. They were a regular regiment of the line and were raised in 1717 in Nova Scotia as Phillip's Regiment, and then became the 40th Foot on the home establishment in 1751. In 1783 they were made the



The West Yorkshire Regiment
(The Prince of Wales's Own).
REGIMENTAL No. 14



The Green Howards
(Alexandra, Princess of Wales's
Own Yorkshire Regiment).
REGIMENTAL No. 19



The Prince of Wales's Volun-
teers (South Lancashire).
REGIMENTAL No. 40



The Royal Berkshire Regiment
(Princess Charlotte of
Wales's). REGIMENTAL No. 49



The Middlesex Regiment
(Duke of Cambridge's Own).
REGIMENTAL No. 57



The North Staffordshire Regi-
ment (The Prince of Wales's).
REGIMENTAL No. 64

2nd Somersetshire Regiment, and were the first foot regiment to be raised in the Hanoverian period.

The second battalion was formed in 1793 and commanded by a member of the Prince of Wales's household. During the French wars and again in the Egyptian Campaign the whole regiment asked for overseas service, and George IV, when Prince of Wales, gave them their distinctive title in view of this. Possibly because of the general use of "Volunteer" in another sense, the title rather fell out of use from 1881 to 1920, and the official designation "South Lancashire" was used. In 1923 the Prince of Wales became Colonel-in-Chief, and because of his well-known liking for Army traditions the old title was restored and officially recognised. However, there is still some feeling in favour of making South Lancashire the main title, with Prince of Wales's Volunteers the subsidiary. This would be in keeping with the usual practice, and there is much to be said for it, but on the other hand it is the exceptions which add a great deal to the interesting points of military history.

The battle honours are long and include "Louisburg," "Havannah," "Corunna," "Talavera," "Pyrenees," "Toulouse," and "Cabool 1842," while the twenty Great War battalions brought, among others, "Mons," "Ypres 1914, '15, '17," "Somme 1916, '18," "Sari Bair," and "Baghdad."

The cap badge is, as may be supposed from the regimental history, the plume of the Prince of Wales, together with the sphinx won under Abercromby in 1801, the whole surrounded by sprays of leaves and the name in two scrolls.

**THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT
(PRINCESS CHARLOTTE OF WALES'S).
REGIMENTAL No. 49**

This regiment came into being in 1743 as the 49th Foot from a unit called the Jamaica Volunteers coming on the home establishment.

They were given the additional title Hertfordshire, Princess of Wales's Regiment in 1815 after providing a guard of honour for the Princess.

At Copenhagen they fought as marines, and the band plays *Rule Britannia* before the National Anthem in commemoration. For service in China the dragon was awarded. Like the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, the unit gained the privilege of wearing a strip of red cloth behind the cap badge for its service at Brandywine Creek during the American War of Independence. It was not, however, till 1934 that official recognition was granted for the exploit of 1777, and it is a cherished distinction. The regiment helped to guard Napoleon, and a party of their grenadiers assisted at his burial.

The second battalion was formed in 1755 as a second battalion of the 19th Foot (now the Green Howards), and in 1758 became the 66th Foot as an independent regiment. It was merged with the 49th in 1881.

The 66th had heavy losses at Maiwand. In the Depot is preserved the terrier, stuffed, Bobby, decorated by Queen Victoria with the Afghan medal.

The battle honours begin with "St. Lucia 1778," and among others are "Copenhagen," "Queenstown," "Nive," "Alma," and "Suakin 1885," while the sixteen Great War battalions brought among other additions "Neuve Chapelle," "Cambrai 1917, '18," "Selle," and "Doiran 1917, '18."

The cap badge is the Chinese dragon with the words Royal Berkshire in a scroll.

**THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN).
REGIMENTAL NO. 57**

This regiment was formed in 1755 and began as the 57th (West Middlesex) Regiment. They served first as marines and, in commemoration, the officers still wear Marine distinctions in mess kit. Through their gallant exploit at Albuera, when their dying Colonel rallied them with the words "Die hard, my men, die hard," they are often known as the "Diehards." After the Crimea the famous Colours—both the King's and Regimental bearing the scars of war—were deposited in St. Paul's Cathedral. With that lack of imagination and long view sometimes associated with the official mind, the ceremony was approved provided no expense fell on the public, and so the officers had to pay. Anyway, so long as the records of that war are remembered the bravery of the Middlesex will be remembered with it.

The second battalion was raised in 1787 as the 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment. One of its best-known exploits was the storming of Ciudad Rodrigo.

The regimental marches *The Lass o' Gowrie* and *Sir Manley Power* are well known. The regiment has a distinguished record, and the battle honours, beginning with "Mysore," include "Badajoz," "Peninsula," "Alma," "Sebastopol," "South Africa 1879," and "South Africa 1900-'02." The forty-six Great War battalions added many, including "Mons," "Albert 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Hindenburg Line," "Jerusalem," and "Mesopotamia 1917, '18."

The cap badge is the plume of the Prince

of Wales with the motto "Ich Dien," together with the coronet and cypher of the late Duke of Cambridge. The word Albuera commemo rates the gallant stand referred to, and the scroll below has the words Middlesex Regt.

**THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT (THE PRINCE OF WALES'S)
REGIMENTAL NO. 64**

This unit dates back to 1756, when it was decided to increase the strength of the Army on account of the outbreak of war with France. They were at first the second battalion of the 11th Foot, now the Devonshire Regiment, but soon became a separate unit under Colonel the Hon. John Barrington, who adopted the black facings which were a treasured feature for well over a century until, in 1881, they were changed for the infantry white. In 1758 they were actively engaged in the West Indies, and later served in North America during the unrest and subsequent war. While in Jamaica in 1782 the title of 2nd Staffordshires was assumed, and the county has good cause to be proud of service in many parts of the Empire in peace and war since then. While they returned from the West Indies too late for Waterloo, they were in time to enter Paris as part of the Army of Occupation under the Duke of Wellington. The regiment was represented in Havelock's column for the relief of Cawnpore and Lucknow. In 1843 a part of the regiment was on the troopship *Alert*, which ran on some rocks on an uninhabited island, and their conduct in the situation merited a special War Office order of the day calling the attention of the whole Army to the episode.

The second battalion began as the 98th Foot, and was once under the command of Sir Colin Campbell. They were raised at Colchester in 1824, and served in South Africa, in the Far East, and then in India. By 1867 they were in Malta, where the Prince of Wales, afterwards Edward VII, visited them, presented new Colours, and, as a mark of esteem for their smartness on the parade and their long and distinguished service, conferred the title "Prince of Wales's." In 1881 the 64th and 98th were combined, and the name went to the whole regiment.

They are justly proud of four Victoria Crosses won during the Great War. The battle honours begin with "Guadalupe 1759" and go on, among others, with "St. Lucia 1803," "Punjab," "Reshire," "Lucknow," and "Persia"—shared only with one other regiment, the Durham Light Infantry. In the Great War the seventeen battalions brought many more, including "Messines 1917, '18," "Armentières 1914," "Arras 1917," "Selle," "Kut al Amara 1917," and "N.W. Frontier India 1915."

The regimental march, *The Days When We Went Gypsying*, is stirring. The cap badge is the Stafford Knot, the heraldic device of the Lords Stafford, surmounted by the Prince of Wales's plume with the motto "Ich Dien," with a scroll bearing the words "North Stafford."

This bare outline of the salient points in the history of famous regiments will, it is hoped, turn at least some of those interested to the works of reference on military history; such a search will reveal a wealth of interesting detail which will well repay the effort.

DUAL PERFORMERS

ON THE FLAT AND OVER FENCES

THE recent victory of The Gripper in the valuable Red Cross Steeplechase at Leopardstown calls to mind the rarity of a good-class flat racehorse shining over fences, as distinct from hurdles.

First a word or two is necessary about The Gripper, as his record is one that will live for many a day in Turf history. A chestnut seven year old gelding by the half-bred stallion The Carpenter (Adam Bede), who stands in Ireland at a fee of £5 5s., he comes from Morceau, a half-bred mare by Desmond's son Righ Mor. Apparently he never ran until he won the Bansha Plate at Limerick Junction as a four year old, and he came up for sale at the Ballsbridge October Auction of 1938, and there fell to the bid of Harry Ussher, who was buying on behalf of Mr. Shawe Taylor, at 400gs. From this point, under the care of Ussher, he has never looked back, as in 1939 victories came his way in the St. Patrick's 'Chase at Baldoyle, the Champion 'Chase at Naas, the Tara Plate at Navan and the Herald Plate Steeplechase at Naas, and, with no obstacles to encompass, the Stand Handicap at the Leopardstown November Meeting. Last year he scored over fences in the Tara 'Chase for the second time, the Metropolitan Handicap 'Chase at Baldoyle, and the Irish Cesarewitch. Obviously an accommodating animal; but he is not, so far, as romantically obliging as was Voluptuary.

Bred "in the purple" by Queen Victoria at Hampton Court in 1878, Voluptuary, who was by the Derby, Grand Prix de Paris and Ascot Gold Cup winner Cremorne from Miss Evelyn, she by Orlando—who was awarded the Derby in 1844 upon the disqualification of the four year old Running Rein—he was sold to the

late Lord Rosebery as a yearling. In the "Primrose and rose hoops" he was successful in the September Nursery Plate at Sandown Park as a youngster, before going on to take the Dee Stakes at Chester in the early days of his second season, as part of his Derby preparation. Unfortunately, Iroquois and others stood in the way of his winning the Epsom classic, and Scobell and a few more finished in front of him in the Epsom Grand Prize, but he came again at Ascot and scored in the Biennial Stakes before going on to Liverpool for an easy win in the St. George's Stakes. This was his last win on the flat, and he next came into prominent notice when carrying the colours of Mr. H. F. Boyd and with Mr. E. P. Wilson, the hero of two Grand Nationals, in the saddle, he made his first appearance in public over fences and won the big Aintree 'Chase of 1884 with Frigate, who won in 1889, and Roquefort, who was successful in 1885, his nearest attendants. Here the story should rightly end, but the climax is to come, as, forsaking the racecourse, Voluptuary took to the stage and, in a sensational drama known as *The Prodigal*

Daughter, which appeared at Drury Lane and in the provinces, and later in America, jumped an imitation Becher's Brook in the centre of the stage.

A rather different story is that of Old Joe, the Grand National winner of 1886. An all Cumberland horse this; he was bred by a Mr. E. H. Banks, by Barefoot from Spot, a daughter of Chevalier d'Industrie, and was given by Mr. Banks to Mr. Joseph Graham, who, as a hobby, ran a pack of hounds. In such an environment it was only natural that Old Joe, who was named after his master, should get some experience of hunting. In the intervals he won prizes for jumping at the local agricultural shows, took his turn at pulling a plough or a harrow, and on one occasion carried a local farmer to victory in a point-to-point. Following this, and when he was either seven or eight years of age, he was sold to Mr. A. J. Douglas for thirty pounds and was sent to be trained by George Mulcaster at Burgh by Sands. This was in the winter of 1885-86, and the spring of the latter year was distinguished by a hard and lengthy frost which prevented much training in the ordinary centres but did not interfere with Old Joe's gallops on the sands. With Tom Skelton in the saddle, Old Joe, starting at the nice price of 25 to 1, won the Grand National of 1886 by six lengths from twenty-two others. To proceed, it was then thought desirable that Old Joe should be rested and then put into training again for the Cesarewitch. This was done, but, despite the fact that he got into the long-distance Newmarket handicap with 6st. 5lb. and was ridden by George Woodburn, the old horse finished nearer last than first, and once again proved the rarity of dual performers.

ROYSTON.



OLD JOE, THE GRAND NATIONAL WINNER OF 1886. FROM A CONTEMPORARY PAINTING
George Mulcaster, trainer, is at his head. Mr. A. J. Douglas, owner, is wearing bowler hat

THE ESTATE MARKET

EXTENSIVE LANDED INVESTMENTS

OVER 2,190 acres of Lincolnshire land near Market Rasen, which belonged to the late Mr. T. S. Whitaker, will come under the hammer of Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. (Berkeley Square). Four farms of from 420 to 730 acres contribute to a total rental of £1,240. The joint agents are Messrs. Parish, Stafford Walter and Bell (Hornastle). The property is known as Stainton-le-Vale estate, and it is at Tealby, the village where, in 1848, Bulwer Lytton wrote *Harold*. Near Tealby is Walesby, of which parish Robert Burton (1577-1640), author of *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, was rector.

The Duke of Portland and his predecessors have for a long period held the Whitwell, Elmton, Mattersey and Gringley estates, of 10,030 acres in the Dukeries, near Mansfield and Worksop. There are forty-three farms, twenty-two small holdings, and 290 acres of woodland. The rental, much below the true current value, exceeds £8,110 a year. The property may come under the hammer in 187 lots next March, but probably the agents, Messrs. Bidwell and Sons and Major D. W. Turner, will receive an acceptable offer for the entirety in advance of the auction.

Messrs. Bidwell and Sons have bought Withcall, a Lincolnshire estate, on behalf of a body of private trustees. This estate, which covers an area of about 2,550 acres, is situated about four miles south-west of Louth. There is an excellently situated main farmhouse, three sets of farm premises, a subsidiary set of premises, numerous off-premises, a secondary farmhouse, foremen's houses and thirty-two cottages. The estate, in a ring fence, comprises the whole parish of Withcall. It is well served by roads, practically every field on the estate having a frontage to a parish road. The estate really consists of three large farms, which are one large farming undertaking. This estate was bought from three brothers, Messrs. Clark, who owned

and occupied the farms, and are remaining as tenants on lease.

Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, by its present purchase of 120 acres, brings Owmy Cliff Farm, which it lately bought, up to 436 acres. It is near the Spridlington estate, which Messrs. Bidwell and Sons, who acted on this occasion also, bought for the College last May, and the College now owns 2,300 acres in that district, near Lincoln.

"REPELLING" INVASION

FREEDOM from all secular services and State burdens was granted, by King Ethelwulf, with the manor of Rooting, Little Chart, near Ashford, the sole exception being that in "repelling invasion" the property must bear its fair share. Ceolnoth, Archbishop of Canterbury, bought the manor, in the year 839, for the monks of Christ Church. Messrs. Alfred J. Burrows, Clements, Winch and Sons are to let the manor house, which adjoins Surrenden Park. The firm has sold Field Farm, 214 acres at Egerton, and Hayton Manor, 210 acres at Stanford, near Hythe.

The Bridge House, on the Kennet at Chilton Foliat, a Queen Anne restored residence, nine miles from Marlborough, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley.

Sales by Messrs. Wellesley-Smith and Co. include the residence, Bramley Corner, Basingstoke, and 5 acres, with the contents, for Colonel Whitehill Ross; Brook House, Riseley, Bedfordshire, a seventeenth-century residence with 10 acres; Laurel Lawn, Caversham, a Georgian house in a walled garden; Hill House, Chalfont St. Giles, a Georgian house with 3 acres; and The Cottage, Standlake, Witney, a sixteenth-century cottage residence and about an acre. Messrs. Wellesley-Smith and Co., with Messrs. Simmons and Sons, have sold the small mansion, The Crofts, Shinfield,

Reading, in parklands of 30 acres. This is the second time this property has changed hands through Messrs. Wellesley-Smith and Co. in the past five years, the present vendor being Mr. Jardine, the well known cricketer.

Offchurch House, a modern residence in 18 acres, near Leamington, is offered by Messrs. Constable and Maude and Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock.

The late Mr. Alfred Parsons, R.A., planned the gardens of 4 or 5 acres at Luggershill, Broadway, a Cotswold house designed by Mr. Andrew Noble Prentice, F.R.I.B.A. By order of Sir Alan Parsons, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley have sold the property. They have also sold the furniture formerly belonging to Mr. Alfred Parsons. Messrs. Kilkelly and Bower were the joint agents for the sale of the freehold.

DORSET AGRICULTURAL LAND

DURING the past three months several sales of agricultural land have been negotiated by Messrs. Hy. Duke and Son, including one near Dorchester, of 370 acres, for investment, the owner retiring; and another on the border of the Isle of Purbeck, a dairy holding of 220 acres with small modern house. In West Dorset, Messrs. Hy. Duke and Son, acting with Messrs. Sanctuary and Son, have disposed of 500 acres, chiefly undulating hill pasture ringed by woodlands. Acting for executors, the firm recently sold two farms of 107 and 125 acres in Mid-Dorset, and they have recently concluded a private sale, to close a trust, of an agricultural estate near Southwell, Notts, of 340 acres, forming two fully-equipped mixed holdings.

Messrs. Hampton and Sons have sold a Surrey property, Polshot Farm, Elstead, an enlarged and restored house and 30 acres on the Wey, between Godalming and Farnham.

ARBITER.

FARMING NOTES

WOMEN WANTED FOR THE LAND ARMY—PIGEONS FOR THE POT—FEWER SOWS—POTATOES FOR STOCK—NEXT WINTER'S HAY

ASKING for more recruits for the Women's Land Army, Lady Denman mentioned in her broadcast the other evening that there are now jobs waiting for suitable girls. There is a waiting list for land girls, which is a very different state of affairs from the position a year ago when the Women's Land Army had recruited thousands of girls for whom there was no demand. At the same time, farmers who write to the newspapers keep saying that women can never take the place of men on the land and in no circumstances can agriculture spare any more men for the Forces. The contradiction is more apparent than real. Farmers are applying for more land girls to replace the younger men who have already gone. They know they will be short-handed in the spring. Farm staffs are reduced to a minimum generally and often below the minimum needed for high farming and maximum output. If more men are not available, some of the work must be done by women. Whatever may be said to the contrary, it must be accepted as proved abundantly that women can do some of the jobs on a farm and do them well. They take to milking especially well and, working under an experienced herdsman, women can replace the younger men in the cow-house. But it is the exception to find a woman who can replace an able-bodied man as a general farm hand. The limitations as well as the prowess of women on the land have to be recognised. It should be made clear in Parliament that if agriculture is to respond fully to the demand for increased output the industry cannot spare many more young men to go into the Army and the Air Force. The women are needed to supplement the existing labour force on the land rather than to replace further men.

* * *

The cut in the meat ration to 1s. 2d. worth of butcher's meat each week puts a premium on such things as rabbits, wood-pigeons and old hens to eke out the official ration. In most villages there is at least one man who can always supply a rabbit. It may be impolitic to ask where it comes from, but in these days, when rabbits are a pest to the Ministry of Agriculture and a boon to the Ministry of Food, there is no need to be fussy. One-and-eighthpence is the price the village trapper has been charging for a decent-sized rabbit, and if the skin is returned he pays 2d. back. Someone comes round with a van each week and gives him 3d. for the skins, and he tells me he generally has five or six dozen to send away. Wood-pigeons will also repay attention. They are worth shooting at

1s. 6d. each, which is the price the local butcher paid me for four plump pigeons last week. They are not easy to get and, speaking for myself, an expenditure of four cartridges for one kill is a fair average. Saturday afternoons are ear-marked by the local branch of the National Farmers' Union for organised pigeon shoots, but so far I have heard nothing of my neighbours' activities. A shrewd north-east wind makes a good fire and leisurely tea attractive on the free afternoon of the week. Still, we ought all to be out after the pigeons.

* * *

There are signs now of a big reduction in the numbers of breeding sows, according to an auctioneer who is in charge of two of the Ministry of Food's collecting centres in my county. He tells me that while the numbers of sheep and cattle sent in by farmers have fallen away sharply since December, the sows have increased. No doubt more farmers have seen the red light about feeding-stuffs for pigs and foresaw that, as soon as official rationing comes into force on February 1st, they will not be able to keep so many pigs. There are the exceptions who are using kitchen waste from the camps and towns and who are increasing their pigs, but in my view we shall see a substantial reduction on most farms, and when the next census is taken the Ministry of Food will be able to rejoice in the success of their plans. Yet the pig is the ideal converter of surplus potatoes, and there seem plenty of them about now and more in prospect for next winter with a big increase in the acreage. At the end of the last war Lord Bledisloe praised pigs and potatoes as the ideal war-time combination in food production. His advice has been followed only in part. Pig clubs are being formed and some village sties are full again, but the general farmer has been warned off pig-keeping.

* * *

There seems to be a good deal of difficulty in some districts in getting rid of potatoes at the moment. No doubt the market has slackened since the official price was raised by 10s. a ton. Merchants probably bought ahead at the December price and have not been in the market during the past fortnight. But I think we shall see these potatoes moving faster now that the meat ration has been reduced to 1s. 2d. a week. If people have to cut down their meat consumption they must make up with something else, and potatoes are the obvious filling. They are much more sustaining than carrots, turnips, or greenstuff, and it seems pretty certain that there will be a greatly increased consumption of potatoes for the rest of this winter.

Farmers who have despaired about finding a market at the Ministry of Food's official prices should, if they can, hold on a little longer. Some, I know, are feeding sound potatoes to pigs and cattle, and in recent weeks the Ministry of Food has been offering surplus potatoes for sale to stock feeders at reduced prices. This was all right at a time when it seemed likely that there would be a large tonnage of potatoes to spare. Where potatoes are being fed to livestock, it is generally worth while boiling them, which increases the digestibility and makes 4lb. of potatoes equivalent to 1lb. of barley meal or maize meal. Fattening pigs given a ration of 3lb. per head per day of balanced meal will do well if they are given as much of the cooked potatoes as they can readily clean up. For poultry, half of their food may consist of cooked potatoes, and there is little difficulty in getting birds to consume up to 4 oz. of potatoes a day with 4 oz. of dry food. Sliced potatoes are also useful for fattening beasts and up to 40lb. per head per day can be given when they get accustomed to potatoes.

* * *

Farmers seem to be doing their utmost to husband their stocks of hay this winter. On many farms oat straw is being fed to all the cattle except the dairy cows, and if all goes well one or two ricks more than usual should be carried over for next winter. This is obviously sound policy, as the acreage of grassland which can be cut for hay this year is being reduced every day by more ploughing up. I see that the Ministry of Agriculture has put out advice to farmers on the best way of replacing the hay which they will not make this year. On the basis of the official average yield for England and Wales, the loss of hay through the ploughing up of 15 acres of meadowland would be approximately 15 tons. To replace this would require 4 acres vetch mixture, or oats and peas, yielding about 8 tons of hay together with 7 tons of oat straw and roots would be equivalent in food value to about 7 tons of average hay. Certainly the conversion of meadowland to arable cropping, looked at this way, need not involve any reduction in the number of livestock on the farm. Moreover, if the farmer takes trouble to improve the remaining grassland by drastic harrowing now and the application of phosphates followed by a generous dose of sulphate of ammonia in February or March, he should have very much the same amount of summer grazing for his cattle, and a useful increase in winter keep from the straw and roots he grows on the ploughed-up land.

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CROPPING SECOND-CLASS GRASSLAND

*Spring Cover Crops that can be tried with little risk of failure on Grassland of poor quality that has been broken up during the winter.
The virtues of Peas and Beans on such ground*

By A. W. OLDERSHAW, M.B.E., B.Sc.

(Agricultural Organiser for East Suffolk, 1911-40)

DURING the war of 1914-18 and since, I observed the crops obtained on a very large number of fields ploughed up from grass, and in a good many cases have been able to follow the yields obtained on these fields for several years after breaking.

There is a large area of rather inferior grassland, broken up during the present winter, to be drilled later on in spring for a crop this year, and the successes or failures of the past are the best guides for the future.

I find that quite a number of plants have been successfully grown as a first crop on second-class grassland. I have in mind many cases where the soil is naturally rather poor, and possibly has been under-farmed for years. Much of this will no doubt be cropped with oats—where this is the case it is well to remember that the oats are very much more likely to succeed if a little readily available fertiliser is applied before drilling.

In a very large proportion of cases on rather poor land a dressing of 2cwt. of high-grade superphosphate and 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia, applied to the land before drilling, will make a vast difference to the crop and pay for the cost of the manure several times over.

Nitrate of soda or nitro-chalk may be applied as soon as the crop is above ground, in place of sulphate of ammonia. The fertiliser helps the young plant from the start, and pushes it on out of the way of pests, such as wireworm or leather-jackets.

I have observed a great many failing crops of oats on broken-up grass, the failures being more common on heavy land. I believe many of these crops failed through lack of consolidation. When turf is ploughed up, it is apt to lie hollow underneath the furrow slice, and when,

as so frequently happens, dry weather occurs in May and June the effect on the crops is very serious. Lack of consolidation also helps insect pests such as wireworm to get about in the soil. The fact that a great many fields in 1940 had good crops on the headlands and almost nothing in the middle of the fields certainly points to lack of consolidation being an important cause of failure. It seems difficult to get broken-up grass solid enough, but pressing at the time of ploughing, frequent rolling, and the use of disc harrows before drilling are the most useful means of securing a sufficiently solid seed-bed.

Early sowing is very important in the case of oats—late-sown oats are very apt to be attacked by the frit fly. In 1940 there was very little frit fly, and in consequence late-sown oats were often a success, but it is unlikely that this will occur again this year. Peas have, on second-

class grassland, both heavy and light, proved very reliable in the drier districts of England.

Where basic slag or super was applied to heavy grassland a few years before breaking, the peas have been much helped by the slag—in fact, there is very little doubt that almost any crop would be helped by a previous application of slag on such land. This manure, by encouraging wild white clover in a pasture, definitely enriches the land and puts it into better condition for breaking up.

Our experience at Saxmundham Experimental Station proves this in a very striking way. In 1917 we ploughed up a piece of poor grass, part of which had been slagged twice in the previous twelve years. We drilled a mixture of 2 bushels of spring beans and $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of Maple peas per acre. The slagged part gave 40 bushels of grain and the unslagged part only $29\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre. The crop was cut with a reaper—it hung together and did not require tying up. The superiority of the slagged part of the field was evident in the crops obtained for several years following the peas. Where grassland has not been slagged recently, a dressing of 6cwt. of slag or 4cwt. of super per acre will in most cases greatly benefit the peas or beans, especially on heavy land.

Grassland is not infrequently poor in lime, and should be tested before drilling with beans, peas or vetches, since these plants are very sensitive to soil acidity and will not thrive if the soil lacks lime. If that substance is required, a suitable application should be made after ploughing and as long as possible before the crop is drilled. During 1940 I saw good crops of peas on both heavy and light land broken from grass. On one poor heavy land farm I know very well, several fields were



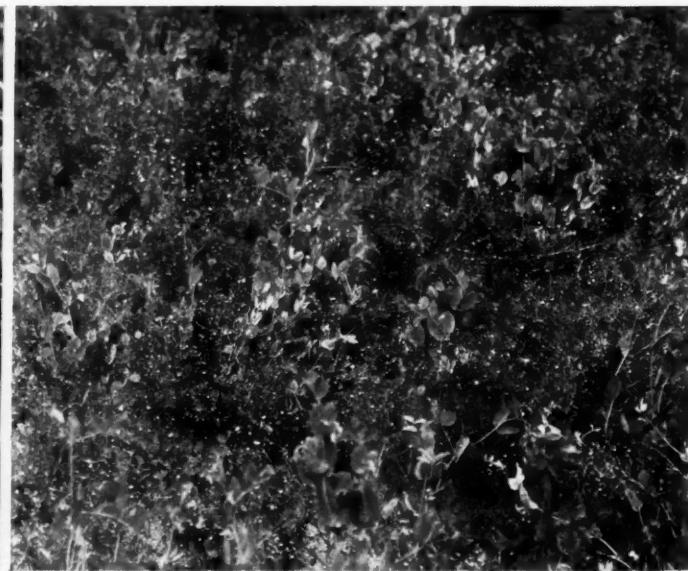
CROPPING PEAS AT TUNSTALL EXPERIMENTAL STATION SHOWING THE VALUE OF A CHALK DRESSING

The crop in the foreground on naturally acid land is largely a failure. In the background on land that was dressed with chalk at the rate of five tons to the acre four years previously, the crop is a success



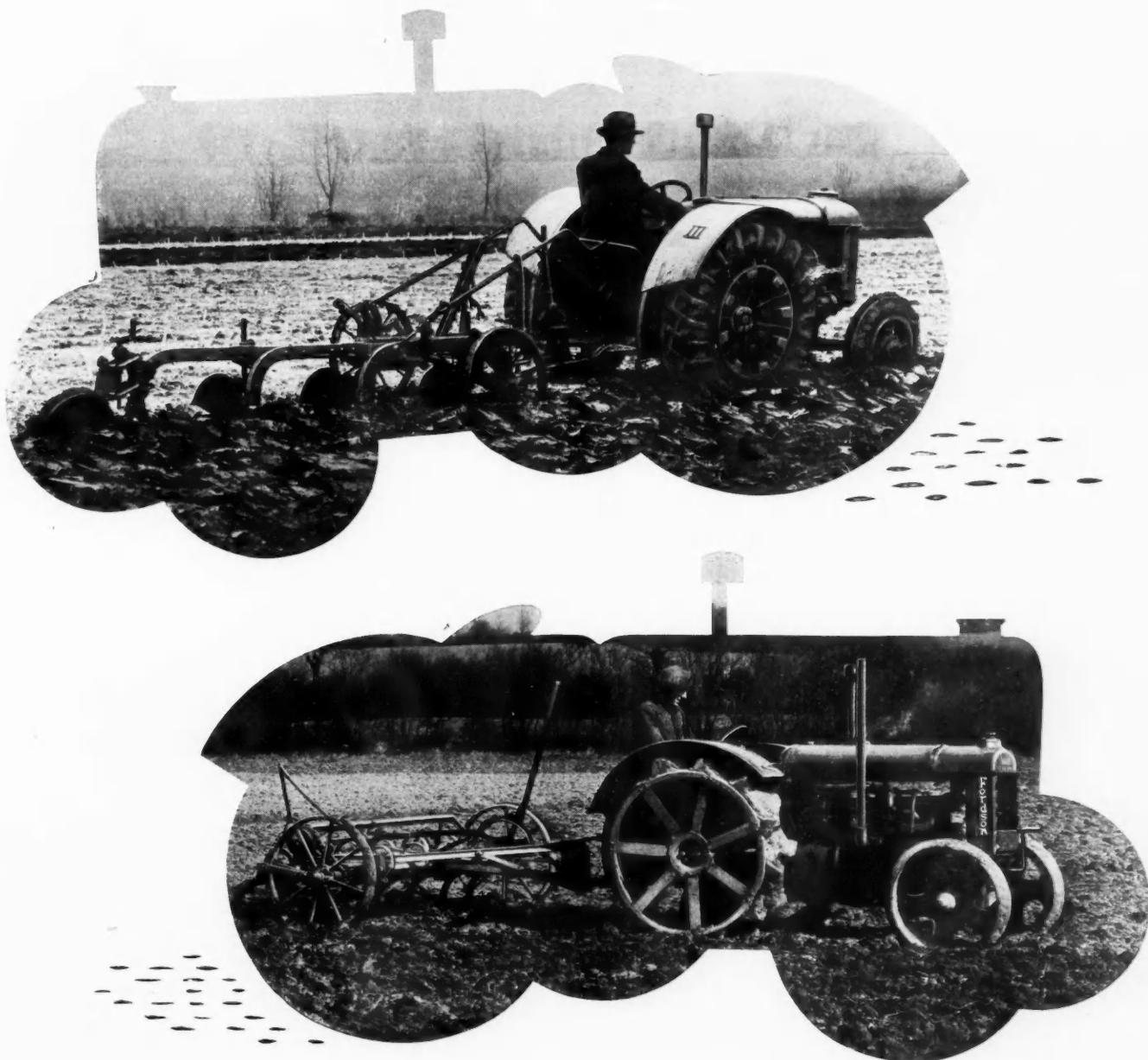
PEAS AT TUNSTALL EXPERIMENTAL STATION

A close-up view of a pea crop on land which received a dressing of chalk ten years previously. The plant made excellent growth and the yield is good



A crop in the same field on unchalked land. The crop is a complete failure and consists chiefly of spurrey, the white flowers and seed vessels of which are clearly visible

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cleared of brambles and thorn bushes in 1936, then slagged and mole-drained. In 1940 they were ploughed up and grew 52 bushels per acre of field peas.

In spite of this, peas are usually regarded as a somewhat risky crop owing to the fact that they suffer badly if wet weather prevails in harvest. Still, in farming as in other things, nothing venture nothing win.

The poorer the land the more vigorous should be the variety of pea selected. Maple, Dun, and Black-eyed Susan peas are suitable for the poorer soils. For better soils the small Lincolnshire Blue peas are excellent, and are strongly recommended by the National Institute of Agricultural Botany, while on good soils, especially rich light loams, Harrison's Glory may prove a very good cropper and give a high monetary return per acre. The latter two varieties are grown for human consumption, and it is possible to obtain contracts from canning and packing factories to grow them, the factory supplying the seed.

Spring beans, owing to their liability to attack by plant lice or aphides, are a rather risky crop, but in some years they succeed well on

ploughed-up grass. Personally I like to grow them mixed with peas as the two together make a smothering crop. Beans and peas are unique among home-grown foods in that they provide a concentrated food rich in protein. Blue peas are the only grain commonly grown in this country, suitable for and palatable as human food, which is rich in protein and which in consequence can replace meat.

Vetches, sown in spring, do not as a rule succeed so well as those sown in autumn, in the southern part of Britain, but in more northern districts spring vetches alone, or vetches and oats as silege, folding or soiling crops, are very reliable as a crop for broken-up grass.

I know of a case in which vetches were put on as a first crop under most adverse conditions, but they succeeded, and were folded by sheep. The folding undoubtedly did the land much good, and it was brought into arable cultivation, no failure of subsequent crops being experienced. This field, when broken up, was very poor in lime, and had a matted turf 3 ins. thick, which came up in great lumps. A good dressing of chalk was applied before sowing the vetches. Peas, beans and vetches

are all leguminous crops and tend to enrich the soil—after growing them, the rather poor land we have in mind is in a better form to grow a cereal.

The flax plant has also proved suitable for growing on broken-up grass in many cases. It is almost immune from wireworm attack, and may be sown later in the season than any cereal, with the possible exception of barley. It is very useful to put in where a cereal has failed.

Spring wheat and barley must be regarded as risky crops on broken-up grass of an inferior type. If, for any special reason, it is desired to take the risk, and grow spring wheat, the crop should be manured as for oats, and a variety chosen suitable for the time at which it is possible to sow. Red Marvel, A I, Able, Hybrid 29 and Extra Kolben II may be mentioned as suitable for sowing up to the end of March and after that date April Bearded and Diamond II.

If barley is to be sown, it should receive rather less nitrogenous manure than oats, and Plumage-Archer or Spratt-Archer will be found the most suitable varieties. Barley may be sown later in spring than any other cereal.

MOLES AND MOLESKINS AN ATTEMPT TO REVIVE A ONE-TIME LUCRATIVE INDUSTRY

ATTENTION has recently been called to the wealth of beautiful fur that is running about unseen throughout our countryside, the only clue to its presence being those heaps of earth so well known to us as "molehills."

A moleskin coat is a lovely thing. It is suggested that, in these war days when fine furs are scarce, and exports are so necessary to our war effort, we ought to make more of this product of our fields, catch moles on a large scale and sell their skins overseas. This was done to a considerable extent in the last war, when the catchers got up to 2s. 6d. apiece for the skins, not only to the benefit of their pockets but with beneficial effect on the meadows, the fair green surface of which ceased to be pocketed with pimple-like heaps of soil thrown up by the subterranean tunnellers. Yet earlier, thirty or forty years ago, mole-catching was a lucrative business and many countrymen made a profession of it, but the whole-time mole-catcher in velveteen coat and with a bundle of traps slung over his shoulder, whose course across the countryside was marked by rows of mole corpses hung up on railings and on trees, seems to have joined the great auk and dodo and to be a species now lost to us.

The old mole-catcher was a skilled man, whether he used wooden traps with a bent hazel rod as a spring, or the iron pincher traps that nipped his quarry about its middle. Both types were set in the "runs," those shallow tunnels in which the mole lives and hunts for the earthworms upon which it feeds. Worms are the mole's staple diet, and it consumes an enormous quantity of them. It has a voracious appetite and a quick digestion. When I wanted to observe the ways of the mole and obtained one alive and unhurt for the purpose of doing so, I found the great problem was to feed my captive. It wanted worms, and would not accept any substitute. Strips of raw beef and bits of rabbit liver were disdainfully ignored; it fell upon a worm with a savage fury that was surprising. Its daily ration consisted of sixty worms averaging 3 oz. in weight. The mole's own weight was 3 oz. I had undertaken to keep that mole for six weeks and I did so, but I was exceedingly glad when the time was up and I was able to return it to the fields. It was with a feeling of great relief that I watched it dig into the turf and disappear for ever—it could now do its own delving for worms. I was heartily sick of spadework on its behalf, for sixty worms per day take some getting.

Although the mole is numerous and widespread comparatively little is known of it, due no doubt to its subterranean life and shy, retiring ways. It is rarely seen on the surface

of the ground, though I think it must come aloft more often than is supposed. Buzzards, for instance, often carry moles to the nest as food for their young, and a bird of this type can capture quarry only on the surface of the ground. Then we have the evidence of a well made bed, composed of grass and leaves, to show that the "blind miner" leaves its shafts at times.

At first glance the mole appears eyeless, the velvet fur of its face being as dense and unbroken as that of the rest of its body, but it has eyes, very minute ones, hidden under its fur. They are, however, so small as to be of little if any utility. They may enable their owner to distinguish light from darkness, but they can hardly do more.

This little animal shows wonderful adaptation for life underground; from its cylindrical body, which fits its shaft as a tube train fits its tunnel, and its velvet fur that does not set in any direction, so that it cannot be rubbed the wrong way when the mole goes backwards, to the extraordinary development of its shoulder muscles and its broad spade-like fore feet. They are truly wonderful digging implements. Naturalists dispute as to how the mole throws up on to the surface the soil it ejects from its burrows. Some maintain that it uses its snout, head and shoulders to shove the débris aloft, but my brother, who has made a study of this animal and its habits, is convinced that the shovel-like paws do most of the work. You have only to try and hold the live mole between your fingers to realise the great strength of its "hands."

If you walk very quietly, taking great care not to make a hasty movement, towards a system of molehills, then pause and watch, you may see the earth being ejected, rising from below and crumbling into fresh red bits. My brother specialises in this. He carries a spade with him and, having located a mole, quickly digs it up. In this way I have known him capture a dozen or more moles in a comparatively short time. On a recent afternoon his "bag" numbered fifteen. They had then to be skinned and stretched.

To be saleable, and valuable from the pelt standpoint, each skin must be pulled as square as possible and nailed on a board to dry. The pelts are at their best, being then known as "clears," from November to March; at other times they show black marks on the skin side and are of little use. The present price paid by the fur dealers to the mole-catchers is about 4s. per dozen, or less, according to quality, but I am of the opinion that it will rise. In any case, a person living in the country can make an amusing, useful and remunerative hobby of mole-catching. He will help the farmer rid his fields of an animal that spoils

much good turf and learn at the same time a lot of natural history. He will discover that, even when using those iron traps that are set and left in the runs, much skill and experience are needed to achieve good results.

For instance, there are mole runs and mole runs. There are the main tunnels which serve as high roads and are in regular use, and the side tunnels which are merely feeding grounds, made in the search for worms and then abandoned. A trap placed in one of the latter will be useless, but in the former will probably catch a succession of moles. Both the trunk routes and the by-ways are bored only a few inches below ground, but my brother finds that here and there the moles have vertical shafts, used as refuges, that descend deeper, perhaps twelve or even eighteen inches. On sensing danger the mole drops down one of these air-raid shelters and lies quiet, though if you begin to excavate him he will then try to scratch away.

Moles are exceedingly pugnacious animals, and strangers fight with tooth and claw. My captive mole would even attack a dead mole if one was placed in its quarters, tearing at it like a tiger. I think that the social life of the mole is based on the family clan system, relatives occupying a system of tunnels into which trespassers are not invited; but whether more than one mole occupies the sleeping place, that comfortable nest beneath an extra large pile of thrown-up earth, known as the "palace" or "fortress," is another matter. The investigator into the habits of the mole will find many similar points to interest him. Why, for example, when snow lies around do moles ascend to run about on the surface beneath the safe covering of the snow? Can they desire a change from earthworms, and is it possible they are in search of wireworms and similar grubs?

The mole, I repeat, offers the naturalist a considerable field for research, also a useful hobby, but the novice must remember that mole-catching is a highly skilled job and that he cannot expect good results without considerable experience which he must acquire he goes along.

[The Fur Trade Export Group, with the support of the Export Council of the Board of Trade, is now appealing to farmers and others to trap moles and sell the skins to collectors. Before the war we used to import about 25,000,000 moleskins from Italy, France, Belgium, and Holland. Three-quarters of these used to be re-exported as skins to North and South America, and the rest were made into garments for home use. The Continental supply is now, of course, cut off, and it is felt that the home product might be turned to useful account in these days as an export.—ED.]



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WOMEN IN UNIFORM

By ISABEL CRAMPTON

I SUPPOSE we all put on our uniforms, whatever they may happen to be, with a certain pride at first—and perhaps a certain shyness too—and possibly feel rather awkward in them until we have got quite used to them. Then, whether you admire your own uniform or no—be it the grey of St. John, the blue of the Red Cross, or the dark blue, air blue or khaki of one of the three Services—since the stringency of regulations does not permit of those variations that are dear to most of us, it is all too possible to get a little tired of it. The truth is that it takes some time for us to learn that, just as, ideally, one even carries oneself differently in uniform, one has also to find the charm of it in something very different from what one looked for in civilian clothes. Instead of being different from other people, the perfection of alikeness is what we must achieve, and instead of devising anything for ourselves the most perfect rendering of what has been laid down for us is our only possible success.

To make wearing uniform a pleasant sartorial experience it is absolutely necessary to spend enough on it to make sure that cut, material and tailoring are as good as they can be, and, though that, in most cases, need not mean any very great outlay, it is money well spent, for such clothes remain neat, shapely and workmanlike to their last moments instead of losing their smartness long before they are worn out, as all too often happens with ill-cut and tailored clothes.

* * *

I do not think that in this direction anything better could be achieved than the three Service greatcoats from Messrs. Moss Brothers' (Covent Garden, W.C.1) which I have illustrated on this page. Most of us have a preference as between the three Services; there are many women who, as they have splendidly proved, are as air-minded as men, and many others to whom the traditions of the Army are sacred, and I have known among my friends at least two to whom the Navy meant everything; one, the daughter of an admiral who retired not long before the last war, felt it as a real grief that she could not follow in her father's wake and had no brother to carry on the direct connection. Naval nephews and brothers-in-law she had, but that was not enough for her. Probably to her and all like her the Naval overcoat, worn neatly open at the throat to show the correct tie and collar, would appeal most; but the lines of the A.T.S. greatcoat, everyone must admit, are both extraordinarily becoming and extremely military.



(Above): W. R. N. S.

(Left): A. T. S.

(Below): W. R. A. F.

The youngest service has a fittingly youthful coat with its wide collar and all-round belt. At any rate, here are all three, as well tailored as any wearer could wish and strictly conforming to the very letter of Regulations. Messrs. Moss always have a stock of ready-to-wear uniforms in hand, but will make to measure very speedily.

* * *

While writing of tailored clothes I am reminded that there is one other type of garment in the same class demanding perfect tailoring and the best material if it is to be economical in wear, and that is riding kit. This same firm always has this in readiness for the customer who cannot wait the short time necessary for an order to be carried out. That may be a useful piece of information to note in these days, when many people in the country find that they must ride if horses are to be exercised and stables kept going even in a very reduced style, and when a day in town is all that most visitors care for. After all, as things are at present, men in the Services are getting leave now and then, and hunting is carrying on somehow to the huge delight of many of them and that provides a form of war work for many horse owners.

* * *

One never talks about half-pay officers nowadays, but I suppose that curious title for the Reserve was the origin of the name of the "Half-pay Pudding" which I found the other day in an old edition of *Enquire Within*. Attracted by its economical-sounding name, I made a note of it. You take four ounces each of suet, flour, currants, raisins and breadcrumbs, two table-spoonfuls of treacle and half a pint of milk; mix and boil in a mould for four hours. It sounds not only nice, but well suited to our half-pay conditions. I suppose that most people would like it served with custard if eggs were beyond their reach, with one of the good custard powders. I think that a thin jam sauce would make a pleasant change and be more attractive.

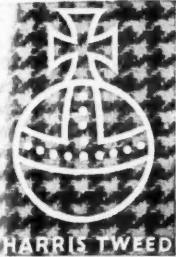
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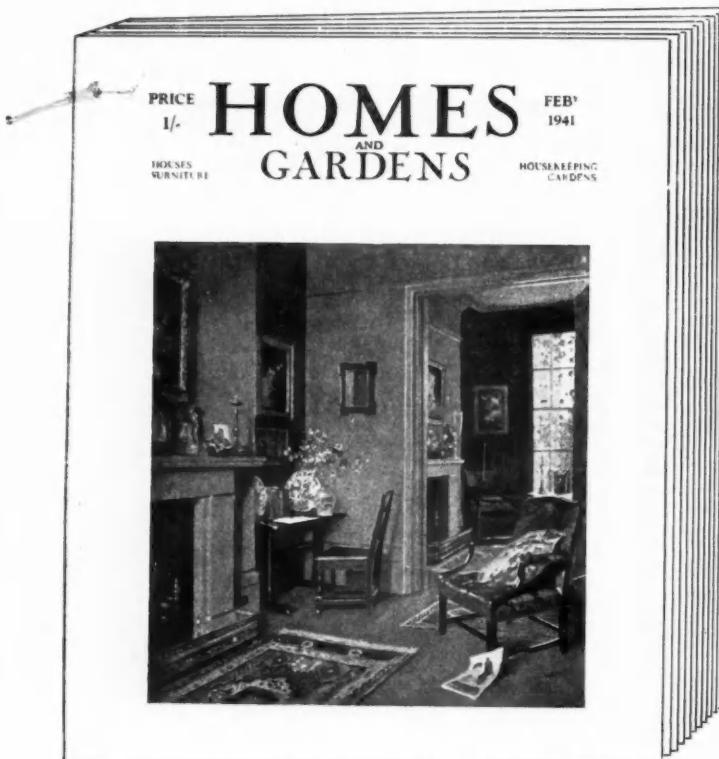
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Annual subscription rates, including postage: Inland, 63/-; Foreign and Colonial, 65/-; Canada, 59/-; Registered for transmission by Canadian Magazine Post. Agencies for the Colonies: Australia and New Zealand, Gordon & Gotch, Limited. For South Africa: Central News Agency, Limited. For America: International News Company, Limited, 131, Varick Street, New York, U.S.A.

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